

E

635

C54





Christ in the Army;

A SELECTION OF SKETCHES

OF THE WORK OF THE



BY VARIOUS WRITERS.



PRINTED FOR THE
LADIES' CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.
1865.

E 635
.C54

J. B. RODGERS, PR.,
52 & 54 N. Sixth St., Phila.

CONTENTS.

PAGE.

I. NECESSITY, ... 3

II. ORGANIZATION, ... 17

III. PRINCIPLES, ... 23

IV. SOURCES OF SUPPLY, ... 33

V. LADIES' CHRISTIAN COMMISSIONS, ... 40

VI. AUTHORITY, ... 47

VII. SYSTEM, ... 55

VIII. IN THE CAMP, ... 58

IX. THE HOSPITALS, ... 64

X. FIELD HOSPITALS, ... 71

XI. DIET KITCHENS, ... 84

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
XII. AT THE FRONT,.....	89
XIII. ON THE BATTLE-FIELD, ...	101
XIV. PRISONERS,.....	113
XV. INCREASED EFFORTS, ...	119
XVI. THE MORAL RESULTS OF THIS WAR,.....	129

CHRIST IN THE ARMY.

The U. S. Christian Commission.

I.

The Necessity for the Christian Commission

MAY be seen at a glance, though it could not be measured in an age. Hundreds of thousands of our sons and brothers had gone to the war. Their hearts, of course, turned toward home for sympathy and relief in their privations, hardships, and perils. Our hearts, of course, went as strongly out after them, longing to give them abundantly the sympathy and relief they craved.

It was not enough that the large provision of the Government should be supplemented by hospital supplies through surgeons and nurses. This, however abundant, would leave the great want still unmet. This want was that of the "living electric chain between the

hearth and the tent," which could be met only by *persons from home*, with *hearts* to sympathize, *tongues* to cheer, and *hands* to relieve; and the same persons returning, with their intelligence, their messages, letters, and tokens for the waiting ones at home. Stores, too, were wanted, not for surgeons and nurses, except in great emergencies; they could be supplied by Government—and never did any other government show greater readiness or ability to do it—but to fill the hands of the delegates with ample means of aid and comfort direct wherever they should find suffering or need.

The story of David's visit to the army of King Saul in his war with the Philistines illustrates the case.

There were eight brothers,—four followed the king to the war; David, the youngest, returned from the army, and was keeping the sheep. A great battle was pending, which would decide the fate of the nation. The heart of the home went after the sons and brothers in the field, and after the prospects and welfare of the army fighting to save the country. So Jesse, the father, took David from the flocks and sent him to "look how it fares" with his brothers, and "take their pledge." *Not empty-handed, either.* "Take," said the father, "for thy brethren an ephah of parched corn," (a very nice thing for them in the field,) "and these ten loaves, and run with them to thy brethren, and carry these ten cheeses to the captain of their thousand." The colonel was not forgotten.

The want met in this case was that of a delegate to go full-handed from the home to the field, who should in due time return again to the home with pledges from the

absent ones; and, in passing, it must not escape us that the visit of the delegate in this instance was God's pivot of Israel's preservation; for it was on that occasion that the boasting Philistine champion was slain, the Philistine army defeated and destroyed, and Israel saved.

Succor.

This want of full-handed delegates from home is intensified a hundred fold when a great battle is fought. Day after day the wounded lie in agony and blood, and, in the heart-sickness of hope deferred, await the slow relief, or the swifter release by death, for want of just that personal service which we at home are abundantly able and willing to give, if there be any way of doing it. Take, for example, the Battle of Mine Run, and the retreat of the wounded, as described by delegates, as follows:

"On the 7th day of November, after a sharp fight, the army crossed the Rappahannock and took up the old line of defence along the Rapidan.

A party started for the field hospitals with a wagon-load of stores, and after working two days among the wounded, went forward to Brandy, and established a new station.

For the next fortnight, the headquarters of the Commission were at Brandy Station. A very large quantity of reading matter was there distributed, and from the station the clerical delegates went out to distant camps to preach.

Evident it was, however, that the campaign was not yet ended, and arrangements were perfected, so that the Commission could go with the army whenever it should again advance.

Two four-horse wagons were carefully loaded, principally with condensed food, stimulants, and clothing; and a party was selected from the delegates to go forward. It was arranged that the remaining delegates should return to Alexandria by rail, and be ready to open communication with the army at the first point of supply, wherever it might be. Either Acquia Creek or Fredericksburg was, by many persons, supposed to be the destination of the army.

Early on Thanksgiving morning, the troops were moving. The tents were struck, the horses harnessed, final arrangements made, and at noon we joined the long line of headquarter wagons, and started out upon a journey whose destination was veiled in utter obscurity. The next day the Rapidan was safely passed, and "Robinson's Tavern," a wooden structure at the intersection of two roads in the "Wilderness," was reached the following morning. Here every thing came to a full stop. The Third Corps, crossing the river a few miles to the right of us, were attacked on the second day, and a fight of unusual severity resulted.

The wounded, numbering five or six hundred, were taken from the field, and placed in ambulances, parked in a field about one mile from the Tavern. The weather was very cold, the nights being intensely bitter, and the condition of the wounded was truly pitiable. Blankets

were unusually scarce, and in the morning it was a sad sight to see the chilled and shivering sufferers. A large fire-place was soon built, and all were busy preparing hot milk-punch, and hot coffee, or in taking it from wagon to wagon, until it was too late to do more. Milk-punch was given freely, by the request and approval of the surgeons, and coffee, made nutritious with milk and sugar, was taken to all.

In some cases, the division wagon containing food and cooking utensils, was delayed in coming to the hospital, so that there were some almost entirely dependent upon the Christian Commission for food. On Sunday and Monday, most of the wounded were removed from ambulances, and laid in hospital tents; but the suffering from cold was still very great. All this time we were expecting the great battle would begin. Both armies were in position, and although the line of defence held by the enemy was very strong, it was expected an assault would be made, and we thought with sinking hearts of the unspeakable anguish that must ensue. Cut off entirely from any base of supply, food and forage, already in some places beginning to fail, and the cold becoming more and more intense, we could but hope most earnestly that the eup might this time pass away.

Tuesday, the order came to return. The wounded were placed again in ambulances, and we repacked our wagons, and took the place assigned to us at the head of the train, thus avoiding delay when coming to a halt at night.

All day we were jolting over such roads as we believe

seldom fell to the lot of wounded men before. We could not endure the sight of these poor, exhausted men, sore and faint from wounds, tossed and thrown from side to side of their ambulanee beds, all that long, long day. The Rapidan was crossed in safety, and as the night came on, the train was parked in a field near its banks.

It was already late, and not a moment to be lost. A fire was kindled, water heated, buckets of milk-punch prepared and taken to those most exhausted. Coffee and soda biscuit—carefully husbanded for the occasion—were then distributed in all parts of the camp.

Early in the morning the same work was repeated until the order to march was given, and we had barely time to take our seats in the train.

Another day's cruel march. Until near midnight cutting our way through almost impassable swamps and forests, at length, as we could get no further, we were ordered into park on a low, flat marsh. An unpromising place it was! No wood, no water, and yet something *must* be prepared for those men, who, many of them, starting off without a breakfast, have undergone the pains of hunger all this long day, else they will surely perish! Wood is sought and found a quarter of a mile away, and brought on shoulders to the camp. A detail of soldiers is given, and they, after a long hunt in the darkness, return with pails of water. The fire is kindled, the water heated, and brandy-punch made, and taken from ambulanee to ambulanee, until at two o'clock in the morning, it is declared that all have been reached.

In the morning the promise is given us that the train

shall not start until we have fed them all. More extensive arrangements for a breakfast are made; the remaining barrels of crackers are opened, and, with hot coffee, distributed throughout the train.

Brandy Station, left behind us just one week before, as we then hoped, forever, was again welcomed as a link connecting us with a civilized world. One week previously we had gone forth with heavy loads, and minds doubtful of the way before us. Now we returned with wagons empty, and hearts full of gratitude that we had been privileged to minister to so many suffering soldiers. A tent was pitched near to the ambulances, and until the wounded were loaded upon the cars, the delegates remained with them, and then accompanying them to Alexandria, helped to convey them to comfortable beds at the hospitals. Such expressions of gratitude are seldom heard as fell from a hundred lips that night. The badge of the Christian Commission was a sure passport to the heart of any one who passed through that terrible ordeal during those "seven days in the wilderness." "Winter quarters" are at length ordered, the active campaign is closed, and the quiet winter days are to follow its months of toil and bloodshed.

The winter work of the Christian Commission is again organized. With Brandy Station as a base for supplies, stations are already established in central parts of the army, and chapel-tents are already filled by earnest worshippers. The plan for the winter embraces the following items:—Preaching the Gospel to troops destitute of chaplains; thorough distribution of religious reading:

constant and personal inspection of field hospitals; assistance given chaplains in the erection of brigade or regimental churches."

Upon the action taken in Christian churches and in Christian homes depends, to a great extent, the success of this great plan.

Rev. W. E. Boardman.

Camp Vices.

Our sons and brothers are exposed to other and greater dangers than those of the battle-field. The demoralizing influences of camps are, alas! too well known. Remove young men from the pure influences of home, from the restraints of public opinion, and from the enjoyment of the ordinances of religion, and congregate them in camps where, for a large portion of the time, they have no employment; where whiskey is their chief luxury, gambling their only amusement, and profanity the common style of speech, and they must have supernatural grace to resist the daily and continual influence of evil example. Shall we receive the boys whom we sent forth from our firesides, pure, temperate, reverent, manly Christians; or drunken, blaspheming rowdies? A million of soldiers will return from the field to their respective towns and villages to become the heroes and educators of admiring youths, and to be elected by a grateful people to every public office from constable to president. Can our republican institutions survive the demoralization of our citizen soldiery? This dire calamity can be averted by bringing the power of religion to bear on the consciences of our soldiers. Officers who are not personally religious

acknowledge the value of religion in preventing the demoralizing influence of camp vices. An artillery officer, whose permission to distribute tracts in his battery was asked by Dr. Patterson, said: "I'm with you. I'll aid you in every way in my power. I don't believe in another world—I'm a Tom Paine infidel—but your tracts and prayer-books keep the men from drinking, and gambling, and the guard-house, and, so far as that goes, I'm with you." When a regiment of British troops in India was needed for a difficult service, and the men of the regiment called for were found so drunk as to be unfit for duty, the commander said: "Turn out Havelock's saints: they are always reliable."

Courage and Faith.

It is sometimes, however, objected that religion has a tendency to make men effeminate and deprive them of that courage on the battle-field without which no sobriety of conduct in camp can make a soldier. But all experience teaches the contrary. The names of such soldiers as Abraham, Moses, Gideon, David, Constantine, Gustavus, Cromwell and his Ironsides, Washington, Havelock, Foote, and Howard, and of a host of other praying heroes that might be named, sufficiently refute the objection. The last-named general, in his speech at the Second Anniversary of the Christian Commission in Philadelphia, thus traces the influence of true religion in forming heroes; and there can be no better authority on such a subject than the hero of Lookout Mountain:—

"My friends, I did not know that I was going to make

my speech so long—[Cries of ‘Go on’]—but I will tell you one thing, and that is this, that I feel in my heart a deep and abiding interest in the cause of my Redeemer. I know that to serve that cause is the object of the Christian Commission, and therefore I love it, and have identified myself with it. I trust that as I return to those regiments you love, your earnest prayers may follow me, that evil in their ranks may be repressed, that the soldiers may sing hymns to God, that when they go into the battle they may go into it without a particle of fear, because they know in whom they have faith. My friends, I heard a gentleman who was not a Christian, say, with reference to General Magruder, on the other side: ‘He cannot be a very brave man; he cannot have true courage.’ ‘Why?’ was asked. ‘Because he is a bad man; one who delights in destroying young men, and leading them into shame and degradation.’ My friends, the highest type of courage is the Christian spirit. By the blessing of God, I have been enabled to exercise a clear conviction on this subject; and I have faith that when he chooses to call me away, I will be with him, not because I am good, holy or righteous, but because I have a Saviour, an all-sufficient Saviour, who is able to save me, the chief of sinners. Therefore, I say I can go into the field of battle, and fear no evil, and would to God that every officer in the army [Applause] and every soldier, [Increased applause] should declare, from the sincerity of his heart, that God had done such great things for him. [Long and continued applause.]

“My friends, these to me are solemn convictions. I

speaking them freely and frankly. It may seem to you that it is exposing one's private feelings too publicly; but I declare to you my solemn convictions. I believe that the Christian people of the United States have been laggards. They have looked to physical wants; they have cried over wounds; they have mourned over the dead; and in this time of excitement, of jostling, and of terror, the still, small voice has not been listened to, and the holy work of the sweet Christian spirit has not had its due weight."

For its purpose the governmental provision of chaplain service was ample in the enactment—a chaplain for every regiment—but wholly insufficient in the application, not more than one to five remaining in some large armies, and only one to two in those best supplied, while the church is abundantly willing to supply this lack of service by sending its ministers, from time to time, fresh and frequent from home.

Again: these hundreds of thousands of our sons and brothers are in the field where there is a famine of reading matter (that is good, with great temptation from that which is bad;) and they feel this the more because accustomed to the greatest abundance and variety. For this the Government makes no provision.

The one necessity to meet these great and various wants, therefore, was that of an agency which should command the confidence of the Government and people, secure all necessary facilities, select and send the proper persons to the proper places in proper numbers and at

proper times, gather and send the requisite stores and publications, systematize and direct the labors and distributions of the delegates sent, and duly report all to the public.

Rev. W. E. Boardman.

II.

Organization.

The Christian Commission, like the rest of God's works, is a growth, a grain of mustard-seed expanding by the power of the Divine life into a great tree. It was not of man's device or fore-ordination. The Great Head of the Church planned it, and step by step, led his servants to its varied duties, by the unforeseen emergencies of His providence.

The revival of 1858, was embodied in the Daily Union Prayer Meetings in all our cities, and in the Young Men's Christian Associations, under whose direction they were generally maintained. When our country called her sons to defend her Capital, the brave youths of these Associations were foremost to offer themselves as soldiers and in such numbers that the Associations of the western cities had scarcely enough members left to keep up their organizations. These young Christians did not believe that they should leave their religion behind them when they went into camp. They went there at the call of God, and of God's representative and minister, who has not borne the

sword in vain; and to fulfil a solemn religious duty in purging the land of rebellion, and punishing the shedders of innocent blood; and they met together to ask the blessing of the Lord of Hosts upon themselves and their comrades. These prayer-meetings began almost as soon as the first companies were collected in camps of instruction. In the beginning of May, 1861, Captain Fuller of Chicago, organized a company of dragoons, many of whom, as well as himself, were members of the Young Men's Christian Association. The company was invited to a benefit at McViekar's theatre, the proceeds to be donated to the equipment of the company. The offer was very tempting, as the expenses, including the purchase of horses, were heavy. But when the captain put the vote to the company, not a single man voted for the theatre. They resolved to have the Daily Prayer Meeting instead. In the Illinois Fusileers they were in successful operation in the latter end of June, 1861; and were continued with blessed results, in Camp Wright and Camp Douglas, during the whole of that season. In the vicinity of Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York, Christian men and ministers were acting as volunteer delegates before any Chaplains had been appointed by government, or any Christian Commission formally organized by the Church. When the brave youths of Chicago hastened to Cairo to repel invasion from Kentucky, they sent up a request for preaching, and the ministers of Chicago went down in turn for several months, and preached to crowds of eager auditors. A request from a battery for hymn-books, led to the printing of the Soldier's Hymn-Book about the

same time, in editions of ten thousand; and over one hundred and twenty-five thousand have been printed and distributed to western troops by the Young Men's Christian Association of that city. During the march of Lyons' army from Rolla, in August, 1861, members of that association accompanied the column, ministering to the sick and wounded such help and succour as they could procure; and receiving from the toil-worn and sun-struck soldiers the most fervent blessings for the pails of water and words of cheer, which were often the only, but invaluable, stores they were able to bestow.

After the capture of Fort Donelson, when the Commission had been organized, Messrs. D. L. Moodie, B. F. Jacobs and Rev. Robert Patterson, D. D., were sent with cordials and stores, to the wounded. They were welcomed by our medical and military officers; Gen. Grant, with his own hand, writing the first pass and order for transportation, from Paducah, for Dr. Patterson and his companions.

The other armies of the Union, as soon as they became organized, were also visited in the same way by members of other Young Men's Christian Associations, who were always welcomed, and whose visits were greatly blessed. As soon as it became evident that the war would demand a much larger number of men than the seventy-five thousand originally called for, and that it would not be over so soon as we had hoped, the need of some central agency to systematize, combine, and extend these efforts, became apparent. As the work had originated with the Young Men's Christian Associations, it was judged proper that

the call of a convention for this purpose should proceed from them. The convention was, accordingly, held in New York, on November 16th, 1861, and the United States Christian Commission was then organized.

It consisted, originally, of twelve gentlemen, members of the different evangelical churches, located in various sections of the Union, and, as far as possible, representing the various legal, commercial, political, military, and clerical professions. A desire for a more complete representation of all these interests led to a subsequent enlargement; and the Commission now consists of fifty gentlemen.

OFFICERS.

GEO. H. STUART, Esq., *Chairman.*

JOSEPH PATTERSON, Esq., *Treasurer.*

Rev. W. E. BOARDMAN, *Secretary.*

Rev. LEMUEL MOSS, *Secretary Home Organization.*

Rev. BERNICE D. AMES, *Secretary Field Organization.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Geo. H. Stuart, Esq., Philadelphia.

Rev. Bishop E. S. Janes, D. D., N. Y.

C. Demond, Esq., Boston, Mass.

John P. Crozier, Esq., Philadelphia.

Jay Cooke, Esq., Philadelphia.

Joseph Patterson, Esq., Philadelphia.

Rev. Bishop M. Simpson, D. D., Philadelphia.

Stephen Colwell, Esq., New York.

William E. Dodge, Esq., New York.

Rev. Herman Dyer, D. D.

W. S. Griffiths, Esq., Brooklyn, N. Y.
G. S. Griffiths, Esq., Baltimore, Md.
Horatio G. Jones, Esq., Philadelphia.
Rev. W. E. Boardman, *Ex officio*, Philadelphia.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

Rev. Rollin H. Neale, D. D., Boston, Mass.
Hon. Geo. Patton, Bath, Me.
Rev. Col. James Pike, Sanbornton Bridge, N. H.
Hon. Erastus Fairbanks, St. Johnsbury, Vt.
Edward S. Tobey, Esq., Boston, Mass.
Rev. Francis Wayland, D. D., Providence, R. I.
Hon. W. A. Buckingham, Norwich, Conn.
Nathan Bishop, LL.D., N. Y.
Rev. Jas. Eells, D. D., Brooklyn, N. Y.
John D. Hill, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.
Samuel B. Caldwell, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Morris K. Jessup, M. D., N. Y.
Rev. Charles Hodge, D. D., Princeton, N. J.
William Frew, Pittsburg, Pa.
Rt. Rev. Alfred Lee, D. D., Bishop of Delaware.
Hon. Francis H. Pierpoint, Alexandria, Va.
Hon. John Evans, Denver City, Colorado.
Hon. Waitman T. Wiley, Morgantown, W. V.
Mitchell H. Miller, Washington, D. C.
Rev. M. L. P. Thompson, D. D., Cincinnati, Ohio.
A. E. Chamberlain, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Rt. Rev. C. P. McIlvaine, Bishop of Ohio, Cincinnati, O.
Hon. Schuyler Colfax, South Bend, Ind.
John V. Farwell, Chicago, Ill.

Hon. John Owen, Detroit, Mich.
Walter S. Carter, Milwaukee, Wis.
Rev. E. Lehman, Chaska, Minn.
Hon. Hiram Price, Davenport, Iowa.
Rev. S. D. Storrs, Atchison, Kansas.
J. B. Roberts, San Francisco, Cal.
Gen. Clinton B. Fisk, Missouri.
Rev. S. Cornelius, Portland, Oregon.
Hon. James W. Nye, Carson City, Nevada.
Rev. R. J. Breckenridge, D. D., Lexington, Ky.
Prof. M. L. Stoeber, Gettysburg, Pa.

Branch organizations in most of the States and Territories, and Army Committees in the principal cities and towns of the Union bring the Commission home to every household and furnish chains of connection between these households and our armies.

Robert Patterson, D. D.

III.

The Principles of the Christian Commission

Are as broad as the church and the nation, and as old as the Gospel and civil society, and yet in their embodiment in an organized national agency, and in their application upon the scales of armies in active service, numbering nearly a million of men, and extending along a war line of 3,000 miles, and of a navy comprising hundreds of vessels, with 35,000 men afloat and ashore, they are as new as the Commission.

I. Catholicity.

II. Nationality.

The Church of Christ of various names united in behalf of the men of every State gone to the war—a new thing under the sun!

These principles in combination, guaranty freedom from sectional favoritism in distribution or sectarian influence in teaching, and give breadth of resource for

supply at home and power of equalization in application to those in the field. By their action, ministers and others are enlisted from different denominations, stores gathered from all the people, and publications secured from the religious press, and all are sent where and when they are needed, without flooding one part to the neglect of another, whilst the defenders of the nation from every State and of every denominational preference are cared for, without partiality.

III. Voluntariness.

This is not new. It was old in the days of our Saviour and his apostles. Their example, however, gave it a new and heavenly lustre, never equalled before, nor since eclipsed, and still undimmed by the dust of centuries, the rust of ages, or the rubbish of infidelity.

It is, however, new and wonderful in this new example, embracing all the members of this Commission and its numerous branches, with their chief executive officers, offices, and store-rooms, the regulated freedom of 20,000 miles of railway, 20,000 miles of telegraph, and of all Government vessels, the services of more than 1,500 Christian ministers and laymen, and a large part of the immense supplies distributed, all on the principle, *freely received, freely given*.

IV. Combination of Benefits for Body and Soul.

The ardent followers of John Wesley, who sought and won trophies on so many fields a hundred years ago, preached the Gospel with remarkable results in the army of Great Britain. Their aim was for the soul alone.

The English Florence Nightingale—name sweeter than the enchanting night-song of her own English namesake—in her aim combined bodily relief with religious benefits. Yet although her name is national, and her fame universal, her work was individual.

Thousands of our American women, also, combine the two. Stars they are in our nation's firmament in this night of war. A galaxy so great that, instead of shining in single lustre like her of England, their brilliance blends into one radiant cloud. Yet lovely as these instances are,—heroic, Christian, comprehensive in aim, and great in numbers,—they lack the breadth of nationality in organization with unity of plan and ubiquity of presence to reach all parts of the immense field at once.

The Christian Commission alone, and the first since the world began, is a national agency, embracing man as mortal, yet immortal, in plans of beneficence for all parts of an immense army and navy actively engaged in war.

V. Reliance upon Unpaid Delegates.

The system adopted eighteen hundred years ago by our Lord Jesus Christ was in principle the same. He selected and sent forth *men* full of faith and the Holy Ghost, men so loving the world as to be willing to leave their homes and go without fee or reward to bear the glad tidings of a Saviour to the lost, and carrying with them their relief for the sick and the suffering in the divine power of miracles for all maladies.

But in a national organization, and in application to

a vast army and navy engaged in active hostilities, this principle is new.

From the national capital around the whole war circle, the entire length of the Alleghenies and the great western rivers down to the Crescent City, and around, up again, all along the coast back again to the national capital, delegates of the Christian Commission are at work, in the apostolic spirit, for the apostolic pay. Armed, it is true, not with the power of miracles for all maladies, but with both stores and publications for all wants of body and mind.

VI. Personal Distribution with Personal Ministrations.

Stores given—never, if the soldier be under the surgeon's care, without his consent and counsel—but *always, if possible, directly from the delegate to the soldier*, and always adding such personal service to the value of the gifts as may be needed.

Is the gift a shirt, drawers, and socks for the soldier, wounded or sick? Wash him first, and then put them on!

Is it a bed? Make it up in order, and tenderly place him on it!

Is it only a blanket? Wrap him in it!

Is it some delicacy for the sick, or coffee, or soup for the worn or the wounded, or a meal for the hungry wayfarer? Prepare it nicely, and serve it! The reward will come when in heaven the table shall be spread, and the King of kings shall come forth and serve you.

Enhance the value of both gifts and services by kind

words to the soldier as *a man*, not a machine; as a man *beloved* for his heroic devotion to the Union, not despised as a mere hireling, food for powder and shot. Set his heart all a-glow with thoughts of the loving ones at home, who send the gifts and send the delegates to give them, and who wait for tidings and pray for the soldiers, and long for the time when, the war ended, peace restored, the Union saved, liberty achieved, republican government rescued and guarantied, the soldiers shall be welcomed back again, and the unsullied, coming forth like pure gold from the crucible, shall be loved and trusted as long as they live, and honored long after they are dead as the heroes who helped to save the nation!

Then when good gifts and kind words and deeds have made their impress, and the soldier exclaims, "Well, this *is* religion!" and says, "Tell me all about it, *how I can* become a real Christian?" then tell him of Jesus, his love, his sacrifice for sin, his power to save, his abundant grace, his readiness to pardon, his perfect righteousness—all, all the sinner's own by simple faith, and induce him to accept of the unspeakable gift, and let the news of a sinner saved ascend on angel wing to give new joy in the presence of God above, and let it go home to fill the waiting, longing hearts of loving ones with glad surprise, and there also awaken the inquiry for the way of life, and bring others to repentance.

Then go stand in the chapel-tent, with its red, white, and blue flag afloat above it, inscribed

"U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION CHAPEL,"

crowded inside and around by men who have learned to reverence religion from such fruits, and there proclaim the Gospel of peace to these men of war, preach Jesus and eternal life to these bronzed, battle-scarred heroes of many hair-breadth escapes, who know that there is but a step between them and death, and oh, how they listen! How their breasts heave, and tears course their cheeks!

VII. Co-Operative.

1. *With Chaplains.*—The chaplaincy is the governmental provision for the Christian care and culture of the army and navy. It is right and worthy of a Christian nation. An enormous wrong would have been done if the hundreds of thousands of our sons and brothers had been called out from our Christian homes and churches, and exposed to the perils of camp and battle, without all possible provision for their preservation from demoralization and destruction, and for their present and eternal salvation.

A chaplain for every regiment was ample, the best provision that Congress could make. The appointments, too, were made with sincere desire generally to carry out the beneficent design of Congress. That some unworthy men should seek and secure appointment, is not strange.

That some good men, impelled to enlist by true patriotism and piety, should find themselves either from want of adaptation on their part, or want of support on the part of the men and officers of their regiments, in a false position, and be obliged to abandon it, is quite

natural; that the unworthy ones should disgrace their office by unworthy courses, and weak ones should be overcome and degenerate into habits of vice and crime, and that these instances should be seized upon as food for scandal, and be trumpeted to the ends of the world, was matter of course. So, also, was the sifting process, by which the number should decrease and the quality improve.

Failure of some in power of endurance, exposed as they are to vicissitudes, hardships and privations, and of others in power of purpose to hold on to the end of the war, could not fail to reduce the number still more.

But for the Christian Commission, on account of these things, to endeavor to supplant and supersede the remaining chaplains, who had stood the test and kept on their course, would have been unwise, unpatriotic, and unchristian. To meet the deficiency of chaplain service as far as possible by its delegate system, and to aid the tried and noble men who, through all perils, hinderances, and hardships, still remain to serve God and our country to the end of the war, by supplying them with Scriptures, Hymns, and Psalms, and the best issues of the religious press, in every form, fresh, frequent and copious as possible, is both wise, patriotic and Christian.

The idea, however, that this work of supplementing and supplying the chaplaincy, is or ought to be the main work of the Christian Commission, is extremely contracted, and would reduce the sphere of the Commission from that of a great national, religious, and relief agency between the people, the church, the home, the press, on

the one hand, and the army and navy on the other, to that of little more than a mere receiving and distributing agency between publishing establishments and chaplains. With these facts in view, co-operation with chaplains has been a steadfast principle with the Commission from the first. Help has never been sought in vain within the boundaries of our objects and means by any chaplain; nor will it ever be.

2. *Co-operation with Surgeons, Officers, and Christian Men.*—God has called more noble Christians forth into the service of the Union than ever before engaged in any one war upon earth. Scarcely a church or Sabbath school in the land is without its representatives in the war. Some congregations have given whole companies and more. Young Men's Christian Associations have given regiments in one or two instances, and large numbers in very many. Pastors have gone with the young men of some congregations, leaving behind few besides the old men and children with the women. Men have enlisted just as Howard procured his own arrest and incarceration in the dungeon, to be able to do good, and as Martyn went to India to win souls to Jesus.

Nothing can delight these noble men, whether surgeons, officers, or soldiers, more than to be helped to the very thing they need at the time and place they need it, to enable them to relieve suffering, save life, and win souls to the Redeemer; and nothing can please the Commission better than to give these brethren beloved the help they crave just when and where they want it.

One more must complete this specification of foundation principles, viz.:

VIII. Respect for Authorities.

Before entering upon its work, the names, organization, purposes, and plans of the Commission, were laid before the President, the Secretaries of War and of the Navy, the General-in-Chief, and the Surgeon-General, and their approbation received.

In each military department, general hospital, permanent camp and separate post or station, the consent and counsel of those in command have been sought, and obtained, at the threshold.

Delegates are strictly enjoined, in the prosecution of their religious duties, to offer every possible assistance to chaplains, but never to intrude uninvited upon their proper domain. And in their work of ministering to the health and comfort of those under medical treatment and care, to do nothing without instructions from the surgeons in charge, and in all great emergencies on the battle-ground, or in the field hospital, or at points where the wounded are to be fed and cared for, during their removal from the front, always to report themselves to the medical director or surgeon in charge, and place themselves under his instructions for just that service which will most effectually aid him in the work of relieving and saving our wounded heroes.

And here let it be said to the praise of those in authority, that the Christian Commission has been greatly assisted in its work, by the timely, wise, and generous counsels and conduct of generals in the field, surgeons,

officers, and chaplains; to whom we and our country owe not only the meed of praise, but a debt of gratitude and love.

These, then, *Catholicity, Nationality, Voluntariness, Combination of Benefits for Body and Soul, Reliance upon unpaid Delegates, Personal Distribution with Personal Ministrations, Co-operation with Chaplains, Surgeons, Officers, and Christian men, and Respect for Authorities*, are the foundation principles of the United States Christian Commission, which we are to see in play as we go to its principal centres of supply at home and fields of action at the war.

Above all these principles of action, hovering over and coming down upon the heads and hearts of ministers, churches, people and delegates, like the Pentecostal breath of Heaven, baptizing them with fire, is the three-fold inspiration of love for the country, the soldiers, and the Saviour. It is this which gives the tongue of fire to those who speak, the soul of bounty to those who give, the apostolic spirit to those who serve without pay, the tireless energy to those who work; which writes Holiness to the Lord on the bells of the "iron horse," and upon the wires of the lightning messenger, and over all throws the halo of the millennial dawn, harbinger of the long-expected day.

Rev. W. E. Boardman.

IV.

Sources of Supply.

Inspired by this love for the country, the soldiers, and the Saviour, and impressed by these principles of the Commission, the good-will of the people has spontaneously supplied men, money, and stores. The artesian shaft of water, sunk far down by the hand of the Great Artificer, has penetrated the deeper stratum of Christian sympathy, and the abundant waters of beneficence come gushing forth in copious crystal streams. The Christian Commission has had no organ to embody and make known its works and its wants. The thought of having one was entertained, weighed, and abandoned in favor of public press, religious and secular, which, unbought and free, has been our willing and sufficient voice to the world.

Few documents have been issued, and those sent to few except those who sought them, yet enough to fill many volumes has gone to the public by the voluntary action of the press.

No paid agency system has been adopted for the field of supply. Delegates, returning from the seat of war, have added their voluntary testimony and service at home to their voluntary work in the field, and there never was such another agency to move the people. In two or three instances, indeed, returned delegates, under the pressure of constant and earnest demand for them to address public meetings, have been retained. This is scarcely an exception to the general principle. Necessary sustenance has been the rule of compensation, and this largely met by special spontaneous provision outside the general contributions to the Commission. Without an agency, and without an organ to urge them, the noblest and best people of the nation have, in their various centres, organized as committees and acted as local Christian Commissions, and as branches of the Christian Commission, appointed their officers, opened their offices and store-rooms, and issued their manifestoes. And the people, without drumming up, have sent in their money and stores to the various centres of supply, which in turn have poured in their streams into the general work of the Commission.

Ministers and laymen, full of desire to give more than influence and money at home, have offered themselves at various centres, and gone under the auspices of the Commission, to all parts of the great war-belt, to do work, with head, heart, tongue, and hands, never dreamed of at home, and which no money could have hired them to do, work which only such men, so moved, ever could have done.

Meetings have been called for, and speakers knowing the work and plans of the Commission sent for, from far and near, not from idle curiosity, but from liberal burning desire to have men enlisted and money contributed.

It is truly wonderful how freely and generously the streams have flowed in. Twice on Thanksgiving days, the first without timely notice to afford general concert of action, the people have by their contributions made their THANK OFFERINGS through the Commission; the second alone amounting to nearly ninety thousand dollars.

Twice in the *City of Boston*—once for the wounded of Gettysburg, and again for the Union prisoners in Richmond—E. S. Tobey, Esq., President of the Young Men's Christian Association, and the ex-President of the Board of Trade, and C. Demond, Esq., of the Commission, sat at a table, in the Merchants' Exchange, to receive the free offerings of the people, and without personal solicitation, over forty thousand dollars was bestowed.

While our brave men were sweltering before Charleston in the extreme heat of last summer, and our fellow-citizens seeking comfort and health at the Springs and elsewhere, the occasion of our meetings at Saratoga was seized upon by the Chairman of the Commission, assisted by Governor Morgan, of New York, to present at the dinner-tables of the hotels, the appeal which had come up from Charleston for ice. The result was voluntary contributions of nearly four thousand dollars, invested,

sent forward, received, and hearty thanks returned therefor.

The City of *Providence* where no appeal had before been made, responded to the call of the Chairman and Rev. George J. Mingins, for the Commission, by the subscription of nearly seven thousand dollars within a few days.

Pottsville, at the first presentation of the work of the Commission by Rev. Dr. Patterson, of Chicago, and Rev. C. P. Lyford, from Camp Convalescent, gave nearly three thousand dollars, and subsequently volunteered to supply coal, through the Chairman of the Commission, to the families of soldiers deceased, disabled, or away to the war. And the Reading Railroad has given free transportation for it all.

Columbia, Pa., without an appeal from any one, volunteered a handsome subscription.

Philadelphia, at a single public Union meeting in the Church of the Epiphany, gave twelve thousand dollars.

California has sent \$114,000, with the promise of much more.

The receipts in cash to 24th November, 1864, are \$920,929.26; besides large quantities of boxes of hospital stores.

Of all this spontaneous liberality, the most remarkable features remain yet to be mentioned.

Hotels—and these among the best in our cities—have opened their doors to the members and delegates of the Christian Commission, free of all charge. The Burnett House, Cincinnati, the Lindell House and Barnum's

Hotel, St. Louis, have received them as guests, without charge, and given unsolicited, but most gratifying assurance of their purpose to continue to do so. And the Continental, in Philadelphia, after entertaining the gentlemen from all parts of the country, for days, in attendance upon our meetings in October, when called upon for the amount of their bill, which would have been nearly two hundred and fifty dollars, sent a kind note, saying, they begged to contribute it as their mite toward the great and good work. Other hotels may have done similar things, without its having been reported to us.

Telegraph Companies have given facilities of inestimable value, without charge. Early in our history, Col. E. S. Sanford, President of the American Telegraph Company, of his own accord, addressed a kind and polite note to the Chairman of the Christian Commission, stating the fact that he had then given orders to the officers of his Company in the different cities, to make no charge for the transmission of official dispatches on business of the Commission.

Nearly all the other companies in the loyal States subsequently gave the Commission the regulated freedom of their lines, measuring in the aggregate not less than twenty thousand miles—a most substantial and essential contribution, worth, at cash value, many thousands of dollars a year, and in its general influence, worth many times over more than the value in money; and messages on the business of the Commission now flash free of charge from Portland, Oregon, to Portland, Maine

Railroad, Steamboat, and Stage Companies have given their facilities with equal cheerfulness. More than *three thousand* delegates have been passed over the railways to the seat of war and home again, during the year, without charge; some of them all the way from Bangor and beyond, in Maine, to Chattanooga, in Tennessee, and from San Francisco to the tops of the Sierra Nevada, and the Dalles of the Columbia. Passes have been given to members of the Commission and of its various branches, and to its returned delegates and others going out to hold meetings, and stores and publications have been transported, either entirely free, or at greatly reduced rates. It can be no longer said that corporations are bodies without souls. We have the most substantial evidence that they may be, and are governed by the noblest principles and the most generous impulses.

When the historian comes to write the history we are now making, that of the railway benevolence and patriotism of this war will form one of the interesting and remarkable features of the times; and there are names among those who have controlled the affairs of the various companies, which will shine with no mean lustre when their deeds shall be told.

Pre-eminent in amount, and most precious in kind have been the contributions of the *American Bible Society*,—over one million copies of the Scriptures, entire or in portions, valued at \$125,000,—to this date. It is a matter of ceaseless gratitude, that God has provided such a source of benefit and blessing to our brave men for this the time of their need, and given its management into

the hands of men so true to their trust, yet so ready for the emergency.

Elsewhere in this report will be found interesting papers, giving accounts in detail of several extraordinary contributions—that of a lady in England through the President of the United States; that of men at sea, on board the man-of-war Pocahontas; and that of the missionaries in India.

A Syrian gentleman sends a collection of curiosities to be sold for the benefit of our wounded soldiers.

The citizens of Nevada Territory send a silver brick, value for twenty-nine hundred dollars.

Mr. E. W. Sinclair, of Central City, *Colorado* Territory, sends scrip of Wyándott Lodge, No. 4, value for \$500; and by the same mail we receive from Messrs. Hucks & Lambert, of San Francisco, an invoice of a hundred barrels of Axle Grease.

A servant girl in Philadelphia from the savings of her wages, gave fifty dollars during the year.

Ladies have given Brooches, Bracelets, Chains and Shawls of great value.

Mr. Wells Williams, the author of “The Middle Kingdom,” sends three hundred dollars from China.

These are a few instances only of the vast number, all of which, taken together, form one of the noblest illustrations of spontaneous Christian benevolence that the world has ever witnessed.

Rev. W. E. Boardman.

V.

Ladies' Christian Commission.**MEMORIAL**

To Christian Ladies and Christian Ministers.

THE LOYAL CHRISTIAN WOMEN of our beloved country have done, and are doing a great deal to relieve, cheer, and save the noble men who are exposing their own lives to save the life of the Nation, and they are ready to do still more as opportunity may offer. Of them, and for them, we may confidently say, that nothing will be left undone, which Christian women can with propriety possibly do, to promote either the bodily welfare or religious benefit of those who fight the battles of our nation.

The loyal Christian women of our beloved country will take double pleasure in honoring our dear Redeemer while they bless the defenders of the Union, and relieve those who suffer in its cause. It will give them

the profoundest joy to add to the cup of cold water ministered to the thirsty soldier on the field of blood, the Christian grace of having it given by a disciple of Jesus, and accompanied by the comforting words of salvation. If, while they aid in saving the nation by saving, cheering, strengthening its defenders, and serve the cause of humanity by mitigating anguish, and ministering comfort to the sick, the wounded, the dying, they can, at the same time, in all they do, glorify the precious Saviour who died for us—their delight will be full, their reward abundant.

Happily, a plan has been formed, which, if carried out, cannot fail of honoring the Saviour, benefiting the soldier, and helping the country on a truly national scale. The United States Christian Commission needs the organized aid of the ladies to supply money and stores for its work, and a national movement has commenced with a view to the organization of a Ladies' Christian Commission in each evangelical congregation of the whole country not in rebellion, with an annual membership fee of one dollar for each member.

The excellence of this plan will be seen at a glance.

1. *In its perfect feasibility.* Few churches will refuse to enter into it. Most of them will rejoice in placing themselves side by side with the great body of the churches of our Lord Jesus in so great a movement and so good a work. Few, if any, who love our Saviour, our country, and the brave men of our army and navy, will refuse to aid by giving their names and the small fee required.

2. *In its remarkable economy.* Most churches will probably act in the matter at once, and proceed to organize spontaneously. And, if necessary, there are among the ladies enough who will cheerfully visit, without salary, such churches as need any one to aid them in organizing; and thus this great national movement can be thoroughly carried out without the expense of a salaried agency.

3. *In its grand results.* If generally adopted, it will enlist the organized aid of nearly all in all our evangelical congregations, present the whole Church united in one grand work of patriotic Christian benevolence, and secure to the United States Christian Commission an immense fund, not less than a million of dollars, for the unlimited expansion and vigorous prosecution of its great work in all parts of the army and navy.

As a Committee, appointed by the ladies of Philadelphia, and charged with the duty of memorializing the ladies of all the loyal States, we lay this matter before you, and solicit your hearty co-operation in the movement. Accompanying this memorial, you will find the form of a constitution, purposely made short, comprehensive, and plain, which, if need be, you can change in any particular to suit the circumstances of your own church. Pastor and ladies uniting, a Commission can be formed without delay in each church, and a little pains on the part of both, and especially on the part of the ladies, will serve to secure all members of the congregation as members of the Commission.

This done, the first great object of the movement will have been accomplished. A grand Christian national

organization will have been secured, and means will have been easily, largely, and economically accumulated. And this can be done without subverting, changing, or limiting any other organization which may have been already formed.

Beyond this, the Commission, when organized in any congregation not already engaged in the work through some other channel, can adopt measures for gathering and preparing stores, and thus render material aid to the United States Christian Commission by the contribution of stores to be distributed by its delegates, or to supply its diet kitchens in connection with the great hospitals in the field.

May we not confidently rely upon prompt and efficient action on the part of all Christian ladies and Christian ministers in aid, by all suitable means, of this national Christian movement?

This memorial has been responded to by thousands of ladies all over the land, from Oregon to Maine, who have adopted the following Constitution. The Ladies' Christian Commission of California has remitted fifty-one thousand dollars.

FORM OF CONSTITUTION

FOR

LADIES' CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

Ladies' Christian Commission of

Auxiliary to the United States Christian Commission for the Army and Navy.

ARTICLE I. The officers of this Commission shall be

a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, chosen annually from the ladies of the congregation, but to hold office until others shall be elected.

ART. II. Any member of the congregation, man, woman, or child, may become a member of this Commission by the payment of ONE DOLLAR annually into its treasury.

ART. III. All money received for membership fees shall be paid over to the (*) United States Christian Commission, for its general work, and go into a national "Membership Fund."

ART. IV. All moneys received by this Commission in contributions over and above membership fees, and from every other source, shall, after making therefrom all necessary purchases, and defraying needful expenses, be paid over to the United States Christian Commission for the general work, and toward another national fund, to be known as the "Donation Fund."

ART. V. An annual meeting shall be held on the _____, of which notice shall be given at some previous public meeting of the congregation. Full reports of the affairs of this Commission shall be made by the Secretary and Treasurer, and an election of officers shall be held at each annual meeting.

ART. VI. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any annual meeting, provided public notice be given at the time the notice of the meeting is given, that such alteration or amendment will be proposed.

* If report be made to any Branch of the United States Christian Commission, here give its name.

SUGGESTIONS.

To carry out the National plan of Ladies' Christian Commissions fully, it will be necessary, 1. To form a Commission in each separate congregation. 2. To have each Commission directly auxiliary to the United States Christian Commission, or some one of its branches. 3. To have the organization reported in full to the United States Christian Commission, or the branch with which the Ladies' Christian Commission connects itself, together with the name of the *Ladies' Commission* and the *names of its officers*. 4. To have the amount paid in for admission fees paid over directly to the United States Christian Commission, or the branch to which the Ladies' Commission attaches itself as auxiliary. If money be needed for the purchase of materials to make up, or for carrying on the work in the locality where the Ladies' Commission is situated, let it be secured in some other way, so as to leave the general *membership fund* unreduce*d*. The Ladies' Christian Commissions should not only swell this fund as largely as possible, but have full credit for it in the reports of the United States Christian Commission, and in the history of the day.

In carrying out this plan, it is not at all necessary that those who become members of a Ladies' Christian Commission should cease to be members of any other association in the same church or community, designed to benefit the soldier, either through the United States Christian Commission or any other agency in the field. It is not necessary that a Ladies' Christian Commission should in every case be a society for gathering stores, or making

up garments, however desirable that might be in itself. Two great objects will be attained by getting all to become members,—the *membership fund* will be augmented by the fees paid in, and all will be combined in the great National Christian Commission. If to these the further benefit can be added of having stores gathered and garments prepared, that will be well; but although important, it is not indispensable. Let every church organize, and every member of the congregation join. And then, whatever else can be done, will be so much gained.

Much, however, may be done by the ladies in addition to the means they gather by membership fees, and the interest they enlist, by combining great numbers in the Commission. They may encourage their ministers in the successful establishment of monthly soldiers' meetings with monthly collections, as proposed by the United States Christian Commission. They may meet and make up clothing, &c., for the soldiers. They may gather in stores, and they may solicit and secure contributions in addition to the fees of those who become members. They may secure for the great work of the United States Christian Commission, besides the "Membership Fund," another, possibly as large, to be known as the "Donation Fund," both of which, in the reports and history of the benevolence called forth by the sad exigencies of this terrible war, will be known distinctly as part of what has been done by woman.

Ladies' Christian Commissions on this plan have been successfully organized in the principal cities of the Union from Philadelphia to San Francisco.

VI.

Authority.

The position of the United States Christian Commission in the armies and navies of the United States is shown in the following letters from the President, Vice-President, Heads of Departments, and Generals in command. Want of space prevents the insertion of commendations from Generals Hooker, Birney, Casey, Patrick, Howard, and many others:

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, }
December 12th, 1861. }

MY DEAR SIR:—Your letter of the eleventh instant, and accompanying plan, both of which are returned as a convenient mode of connecting this with them, have just been received. Your Christian and benevolent undertaking for the benefit of the soldiers, is too obviously proper and praiseworthy to admit of any difference of opinion. I sincerely hope your plan may be as successful in execution as it is just and generous in conception.

Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN.

GEORGE H. STUART, Esq.,

Chairman U. S. Christian Commission, Philadelphia, Pa.

ADDRESS OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES—HON. HANNIBAL HAMLIN

At the Washington Anniversary.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—I can conceive of no object more worthy of your respect, or one which should more earnestly elicit your attention, than the purpose for which you have assembled to-night. While the Government under which we live was struggling for its existence, and sending forth its armies to the field for the preservation and perpetuation of free and liberal institutions, and while we were passing through that crisis which every nation on earth must pass through ere it can arrive at the magnitude and power of our own, there came to its aid, and rendered most essential service in the time of its trial, this Christian Commission. It came to perform the duties of a living, practical Christianity; and while it came "to bear with liberty and law the Bible in the van," it came also with its angels, ministering on the field and in the camp, to stanch the blood, to heal the wounds, to raise the sick, and let the brave and gallant soldier in the field know that he was cared for at home. Upon every battle-field, in every camp, in every hospital, the kind and Christian influences of this Association have been felt. They cannot be measured by words. More, I am told, than twelve hundred of its missionaries have bestowed their Christian ministrations in all the various departments: more than a million dollars have been expended in its great and religious purposes; and it has been a practical, living Christianity they dispensed—a Christianity that has nerved the soldier in the hour

of conflict, and cheered him on the couch of pain and in the hour of battle. It is our duty to give to that Association our aid, our countenance, and our heartiest prayers, while they have been doing, are doing, and will continue to do this invaluable service. I am happy to be with them on this occasion, and to lend any feeble aid which I may be able to give to farther it along the rugged path of its duty.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY STANTON.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

Washington City, April 16, 1864. }

DEAR SIR:—Among the benevolent associations organized by patriotic and charitable men during the present war, none has surpassed, and few, if any, have equalled the Christian Commission in zeal, energy, and disinterested devotion to the humane objects of their institution. Their efficient labors in the field, in the hospital, and in the camp, have been felt by soldiers and officers, and have frequently been brought to the notice of this Department. It is not only a pleasure, but I regard it as an official duty, to commend it to public confidence and respect, as an institution whose labors cannot fail to contribute greatly to the welfare of our armies.

Yours, truly,

EDWIN M. STANTON,

Secretary of War.

Rev. H. DYER, New York.

REAR ADMIRAL FOOTE, CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF
EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING.

BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING, }
Washington, February 18, 1863. }

ADMIRAL:—This Bureau has been charged with the duty of attending to the requisitions of the Christian Commission of the army and navy, so far as the navy is concerned. It is the wish of the Department to have forwarded moral and religious works, with hospital delicacies, etc., to the different squadrons, in vessels bound to these squadrons.

You will please, therefore, have the beneficent object of the Christian Commission in view, and afford it every possible reasonable accommodation consistent with the public interest, and forward such articles as it wishes for the temporal and spiritual welfare of those engaged in the naval service.

Please refer to the Bureau applications for passage, which must be made and indorsed by some one in connection with the Association.

The officers of the Society are gentlemen of the highest standing in New York.

Respectfully, etc.,

A. H. FOOTE,

Chief of Bureau.

Rear Admiral HIRAM PAULDING,

Commandant Navy Yard, New York.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR.

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington City, Oct. 27, 1864.

DEAR SIR:—I have read with great interest the report of the doings of the Christian Commission during the year 1863, which you have so kindly sent me. Some of the facts which it narrates I had myself witnessed, but the comprehensive view of your noble enterprise, which the Report presents is deeply interesting. God bless the Christian Commission, and may its efforts be as successful as they are admirable.

Yours, faithfully,

C. A. DANA.

GEORGE H. STUART, ESQ.

THE STATE OF OHIO.

Through the State Agent and Gov. Brough.

D. Rees and D. Blakeslee, Esqs., sent to General Butler's Army to look after the welfare of the Ohio regiments, give to Hon. James C. Wetmore, the State Agent at Washington, a very interesting report, which, through Governor Brough, to whom it was transmitted, comes to us from Columbus, Ohio, through the *Cincinnati Commercial*. In it they take occasion to bear testimony as follows for the Christian Commission:—

“Fortress Monroe is the outlet from both Butler's and Grant's armies, and on this account is an important point for a hospital. This fact is fully realized by the Christian Commission, and, therefore, they have established

their head-quarters at this place, from which they can readily send supplies either up the York or James river. Of the good work done by this Association, we cannot speak in too high terms of commendation. Wherever we went we found them on hand, administering to the wants of the soldier, 'without money and without price,' not awaiting the formal order of unfeeling officials.

"Your committee has been forced to the unwilling conclusion that the most direct and sure channel by which supplies can reach the needy soldier, and at the same time much the cheapest, are State organizations and the Christian Commission."

DR. CADY TO THE U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

HEADQUARTERS 2D BRIGADE, 3D DIV., 3D CORPS, }
December 13, 1863. }

Dear Sir:—A sense of duty compels me to thank, through you, the noble Christian Commission for the assistance afforded by its agents to the wounded of this brigade, before and during the retrograde movement of the army from the Rapidan.

The wagon of the Commission was constantly at the hospital, in the field, and with the ambulance train during the retreat, and your agents seemed indefatigable in dispensing necessary food, medicine, bandages, stimulants, etc., to our wounded and sick; and I know that, through their enterprise and humanity, a great amount of suffering was alleviated. For six days and nights your agents were constantly employed in the work of Christian mercy;

six bitter cold days and nights did they labor without cessation.

In the name of the wounded of my brigade, I tender you and the Commission most hearty thanks.

I am, dear sir, truly yours,

CHARLES E. CADY.

2d Brigade, 3d Div., 3d Corps.

GEORGE H. STUART, Esq.,

President Christian Commission, Philadelphia.

SPECIAL ORDER OF GEN. GRANT.

HEADQUARTERS MIL. DIV. OF THE MISS. }

In the Field, Chattanooga, Tenn., Dec. 12, 1863. }

SPECIAL ORDER No. 23. EX.

All officers holding commands in the Military Division of the Mississippi, are hereby required to extend every facility not inconsistent with the public service, to all Delegates of the United States Christian Commission, and aid them by every legitimate means in their power, to the accomplishment of the benevolent and charitable purposes of the Commission.

Permission will at all times be granted by the proper military authorities to such delegates to pass to all parts within the lines, without hinderance or molestation.

The Commissary Department will at all times sell to such delegates, upon certificates similar to those given by officers, such stores as they may need for their own use.

Military telegraph lines will transmit for such dele-

gates messages relating to the business of the Commission.

The Quartermaster's Department will, upon application, furnish such delegates and their stores free transportation upon all government steamers and military railroads to and from such points within the military division as their duty may require them to visit.

By order of MAJOR-GENERAL U. S. GRANT.

GEO. K. LEET, Ass't Adj't Gen.

REV. E. P. SMITH,

Gen. Field Agent U. S. Christian Commission.

Special Orders, No. 362.

WAR DEPARTMENT $\frac{E}{2}$, Adjutant General's Office, }
WASHINGTON, October 24, 1864. }

[EXTRACT.]

56. Permission to visit the U. S. General Hospitals, within the lines of the several Military Departments of the United States, for the purpose of superintending the preparation of food in the Special Diet Kitchens of the same, is hereby granted Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, Special Agent U. S. Christian Commission, and such ladies as she may deem proper to employ, by request of United States Surgeons. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

*

*

*

*

*

By order of the Secretary of War.

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

VII.

System and Work.

I. Division of the Army Field.

- GENERAL 1. Armies near Richmond.
2. Army in the Shenandoah Valley.
3. Army of the Cumberland, &c., &c.
4. Armies along the Southern Mississippi.
5. Armies in Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas.
6. The navy, Southern coast and Gulf, supplied from New York.
- SPECIAL. Stations and Corps organizations.
A station in each great army centre, when the army is at rest; and a moving organization in each corps when the army moves.
Out stations to meet wants of various sections.
Permanent stations in all great permanent centres.

II. Men and Women for the Field.

1. AGENTS.—Permanent—paid.

One field agent for each general division, five in all, with assistants in the larger fields.

One station agent or corps captain for each station or corps organization, with teamsters.

2. DELEGATES for six weeks, or longer, unpaid; from two to ten at each station, as needed; and at City Point, forty to fifty. Three hundred the full corps. Over three thousand in all have served.

3. MANAGERS OF DIET KITCHENS.—About sixty ladies employed.

III. Appliances.

1. Barrack chapels, store and subsistence rooms, at permanent camps.

2. Chapel, store and subsistence tents, at all moveable stations.

3. Churches, houses, &c., detailed by Government, at most permanent stations.

4. Wagons and teams, four-horse, for each moving organization; two-horse for such stations as require them.

5. Special diet kitchens in field-hospitals, managed under direction of the Surgeons, by Christian Commission lady managers.

IV. Labors.

1. Hospital.—Preaching; prayer-meetings; personal intercourse with soldiers; and distribution.

2. Field.—The same—at all stations, and along the lines; at all out stations, isolated posts, batteries, &c.

3. Battle-field work.

4. Individual relief, aid and information, at special request.

5. Forwarding home money for soldiers in service, and effects of deceased soldiers.

6. Managing special diet kitchens, under medical authorities.

V. What is Distributed.

1. Battle-field, hospital, and special diet kitchen stores; such as shirts, drawers, socks, handkerchiefs, towels, bandages, lint, farina, corn-starch, crackers, cordials, dried fruits, canned fruits, fresh apples, grapes, peaches, &c., onions, potatoes, ice, syrups, jellies, pickles, &c., Jamaica ginger, condensed milk. Bibles for hospitals and Bible-classes; Testaments to all soldiers. Scriptures in German, French, and other foreign languages. Gun-boat libraries, hospital libraries, soldiers' books, weekly and monthly religious papers: over four hundred thousand a month; tracts, Silent Comforters, &c.

Rev. W. E. Boardman.

VIII.

In Camp.

The work of the Commission in Camp, in keeping up the influences of religion, and bringing them to bear personally on the soldiers, may be seen from the following letters from delegates and chaplains.

The Christian Commission in Arkansas.

The rooms of the Christian Commission were opened in Little Rock, Arkansas, on the 1st of February, 1864. A pleasant and commodious place having been procured in a conspicuous part of the city, we unfurled the "Banner," and commenced sounding the "Gospel Trumpet." For spiritual growth and Divine guidance in our mission of love, a Daily Prayer Meeting was immediately appointed at 2 o'clock, as a proper and successful means. And here let me remark, that wherever the Commission has been established, the first thing was to dedicate the spot to Almighty God, and earnestly seek His favor and direction. To accomplish proper and desirable results, we must use proper and appointed means.

The building we have obtained is a large two-story dwelling house, situated on the southwest corner of Main and Mulberry Streets, which had just been leased to the W. S. Commission, but through the kindness of its agent, G. M. Wyeth, we were welcome to one-half of it, and thus united under the same roof the two "Sisters of Charity."

The object of the Commission and its actual workings in other Departments being almost entirely unknown to the greater portion of this, it required much perseverance, as well as patience to get established, and to procure the respect and encouragement of those with whom we have to do. But with the help of the "Good Master," whose cause it is, we at first secured the favor of the Commanding General, and a lively and growing interest soon became manifest. At first soldiers would come in rather hesitatingly, to inspect and to inquire the price of things, often saying among themselves that "they allowed it was a sutler's shop, or some 'shebang,' following the army to keep greenbacks from moulding." But a knowledge of the Commission at once commanded respect, and the growing interest may be seen by the following report:

Average number that visited the rooms daily for the following five months:—February, 20; March, 45; April, 90; May, 175; June, 140. Average number that attended the Daily Prayer Meeting:—February, 7; March, 12; April, 18; May, 50; June, 45. Reading matter distributed at this and other military posts, viz., Fort Smith, Pine Bluff, and Duvall's Bluff, during these five months: Soldier Books, 6787; Testaments, 4581; Hymn Books, 2713; Magazines, 664; Library Books, 440; Papers,

69,771; Pages Tracts 329,528; the sum total distributed in June being twelve times that in February, and besides have distributed a large number of Charts, Almanacs, "Silent Comforters," "Green Pastures," "Words of Life," "Words for the Heart," &c., to the Hospitals, and Spelling Books, Bible Readers, Copy Books, &c., to colored regiments. Have also issued to Hospitals—shirts, sheets, pillow-slips, drawers, handkerchiefs and towels; and have put into the hands of soldiers many luxuries, consisting of dried, pickled and canned fruits, condensed beef and milk, wines, candies, jellies, jams, &c., &c. Have, during the time, held 180 religious meetings, besides many hospital and funeral services. Have furnished stationery for the hospitals, and often sitting down by the bed-side of the sick and wounded, written out their requests and sent them to their dear ones at home; talked with them of Jesus, and, if dying, commended them to him in prayer, and forwarded the sad news to their families. All of which have brought many a smile as well as tear, and many an earnest "God bless you and them that sent you."

N. W. Christian Advocate.

Virginia.—A Noble Record.

CAMP OF THE 14TH N. J. VOLS.,)
Near Charlestown, Va., Sept. 16th, '64.)

GEO. H. STUART, ESQ.:—*My Dear Brother.*:—Cannot something be done for this part of the army, by your noble Commission, in the way of supplying us with mental and spiritual food?



Our regiment is greatly reduced, our casualties during the campaign being over four hundred! Still we have about two hundred and fifty left. Out of two hundred and fifty of the regiment converted last winter at Brandy Station, about two hundred are killed or wounded. Our killed all left a good record. *Not one of them ever disgraced the profession they made during the winter.* We have a remnant left; their influence is still a power.

Cards or Books.

We keep up regular evening services; but the good that might be done, and ought to be done, is almost nothing, because of the want of something to employ the mind and heart during the long days we are passing. For three months I never saw a card in the regiment; yesterday I saw two games! I objected; but the boys say: "Chaplain, we must do something to employ our time. We are only playing in fun, because we have nothing else to do!" This will be the entering wedge of greater evils. Pay-day will bring its accessory of real gambling, if this cannot now be checked. A supply of two hundred good papers weekly, and a few good books for distribution, will save numbers of our men from destruction. I look for an active and bitter campaign this fall. Some of our boys will be killed. It remains for the Christian Commission, under God, to open to them the gate of Paradise. What can you do? We get Philadelphia morning papers every evening. Why can't we have religious papers once a week?

Can't we get any thing to read.

I never felt more encouragement in doing my duty than

now, but I never was so powerless in the matter of assistance. Our boys say: "*Can't* we get any thing to read?" and I told them, "I don't know, but I'll make a big effort; I'll write to George H. Stuart and see. I don't believe but that we *can*."

I have written. I know your task is great and onerous, and your calls loud and many; but a moment's thought in behalf of these noble Jersey Blues, of the old 6th corps, will eventuate in great good.

Affectionately your brother in Christ,

FRANK B. ROSE,

Chaplain, 14th N. J. V.

The Revival at Camp Distribution.

I found at Camp Distribution an interesting work of grace in progress. It increased in power. Truly the Spirit did a great work among the soldiers at this point. The meetings were marked for a deep, quiet, intense feeling of interest during service. Many arose for prayer when the opportunity was given thus to ask for the prayers of God's people. Sometimes ten, sometimes twenty, and as high as one hundred. In one instance, when there were over one thousand present, it seemed as if nearly one-half in the house arose.

Very many desired to make a public profession of their faith in Christ.

I found there a church organization, Confession of Faith adopted by a number of brethren of different denominations, also a record of names of members, &c.

In accordance with their custom, after careful examination, we admitted, and baptized the unbaptized.

I officiated in admitting one hundred and fifty-two, (152,) of which I baptized one hundred and one, (101) persons. These were all received after a personal examination of each, except in one instance we examined a number at one time before the congregation, for want of time. Many applied for admission who could not be received for want of clear evidence of a change of heart.

Those admitted gave good evidence of true conversion, many gave, I can but say, as clear evidence of true conversion as any persons I ever admitted to church privileges.

That camp, now under the supervision of the excellent Brother Fisher, is truly a point of great interest, and should be remembered in the prayers of God's people.

Hoping the Spirit will continue the glorious work there and elsewhere in the army, I remain your brother in Christ.

G. M. HAIR.

Cambridge City, Indiana, Oct. 30, 1864.

IX.

The Hospitals.**Individual Relief.**

PHILADELPHIA, June 24th, 1864.

* * * *

“I see by the telegraphic news from San Francisco, that the women of our city are holding a meeting relative to the Christian Commission. There is a woman’s branch of this noble work forming in every city here, and there can be no better benevolence organized. They do good and efficient service here, I know, and occupy their place in the great arena of need, as well as the Government Medical Staff, and Sanitary Commission. It may not be amiss to give you a little experience of my own in all three. Discovering that a young relative was wounded at Hanover Junction, on the North Anna, and carried to a hospital at Alexandria, I went at once to the ‘chief medical officer of the Susquehanna’ to find out his condition, and was directed by him to memorialize the “Chief M. D. of the Potomac” on the subject, which I did. I then wrote to the Sanitary Commission at Washington, with the same view; and finally, on Schemmerhorn’s principle of swallowing the bottle after taking the physic, ended by addressing the Christian Commission. In

two days I was telegraphed by the latter body, that the young man lay at the "Soldier's Rest;" that one of their number was in attendance on him, and would see him possessed of all the comforts in their power. The next day, while a member of his family was on the way to Alexandria, the poor boy, with forty others, was sent from the "Rest" to New York Hospital; and so ill able were they to be moved, that two of them died on the way to Philadelphia, which they reached about four o'clock the following morning after they left Alexandria. Being utterly unable to go farther, and, moreover, not concurring in the wisdom of Government in sending him from the city of his birth, to a hospital in a place where he knew no one, this young relative of mine deserted, in the face of consequences, at the first halt they made, which happened to be at the "Cooper Shop Refreshment Saloon;" and presented himself at full length on our door step, in an unconscious state, about daybreak, having walked or crawled about two miles with an arm that was a shattered mass, and which has since been amputated. Having accomplished this feat, it seemed improbable, for an hour or two, that he would ever achieve any other in this world, as he hung between life and death, with a decided leaning towards the latter. Rallying slightly by and by, it became necessary to report his irregularity, and gain his admittance to the proper hospital, as it is not possible in the rules of the service to keep a wounded soldier in any other way. * * * * *

I found the poor fellow, who was awaiting my return, somewhat revived, and he told me that the number in the

"Rest" was so great, that he was a long time in getting attention. The Christian Commission friend was the first to come to him, and that was on the day after his wound, when he was a most offensive object, and literally eaten with the vermin that infest wounds. This Samaritan brought him a shirt and drawers, and gave him a bath. The old clothing had to be cut and scraped off, owing to the clotting of the blood that fixed it like paste upon him, and such dressing as could be done to such an arm as his, was done for him. He had no other care till he came to us, and all we could do was to apply ice-water to the burning wound. In the hospital all that art can invent to lessen the pain, is furnished for the poor fellows; rests for wounded limbs, wheeled chairs, air cushions, machines for keeping up a steady stream of water on a wound, and every delicacy that can tempt a weak appetite. Sister Gonzaga, the superior of the female nurses, is kind and attentive enough to win proselytes to her faith; and ice-cream, custard, jellies, blanc-manges are manufactured by her as aptly as if she were an old confectioner.

About four days after the comfortable settling of the young man in the hospital, I received a very pleasant and satisfactory note from the Secretary, saying that they had found, on application to the chief of the Medical Directory, that a person of the name I mentioned had been admitted into the "Soldier's Rest Hospital," at Alexandria, that he was badly wounded in the right arm and that they were "most respectfully," etc. I was gratified at the trouble they had taken, and still more so when, exactly twelve days from the time he entered the

hospital here, I was assured, on the testimony of United States officers, that there was no such person alive as the object of my solicitude. M. H.

The Alta California, San Francisco, July 20, 1864.

FIELD AGENTS.

ARMIES AROUND PETERSBURG.

John A. Cole,

General Field Agent, U. S. C. C.
City Point.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S ARMIES.

Rev. E. P. Smith,

General Field Agent, U. S. C. C.
Nashville, Tenn.

ARMIES SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

(Gen. Sheridan's.)

J. R. Miller,

General Field Agent, U. S. C. C.
Winchester, Va.

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.

Rev. F. G. Ensign,

General Field Agent, U. S. C. C.
Memphis, Tenn.

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT.

Rev. Shepherd Wells,

General Field Agent, U. S. C. C.
St. Louis, Mo.

LOCAL AGENTS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Rev. J. J. Abbott.

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Rev. O. P. Thompson.

FORTRESS MONROE, VA.

Rev. W. L. Tisdale,

NEW ORLEANS, LOU.

Hon. J. V. C. Smith, M. D.

NASHVILLE, TENN.

W. A. Lawrence, Esq.

KNOXVILLE, TENN.

Arthur Lawrence, Esq.

CHATTANOOGA, ALA.

Rev. H. M'Holmes.

ATLANTA, GEO.

T. R. Ewing, Esq.

LOUISVILLE, KY.

J. Russell, Esq.

VICKSBURG, MISS.

Rev. J. H. Parmele.

A letter of inquiry, addressed to the Agent of the place where a wounded friend is lying, will elicit such information as he can obtain through the delegates.

Hospital Libraries.

The Hospital Libraries are now ready to be sent out. Gen. Whipple, chief of staff for Gen. Thomas, called a few days since to see them. He ordered the thirty library cases, which had been made by order of Gen. Donaldson, Chief Quartermaster, to be turned over to the Christian Commission, and thirty more of similar pattern made for hospitals at Chattanooga and Atlanta. Through Chaplain Thomas' half price arrangement with the publishers, and free transportation by Adams' Express, we get a choice library surprisingly cheap. Fifty dollars give us one hundred and eighty books in good variety—religious, historical, scientific and poetical—such a library as any soldier or officer, who cares to read, will be glad to have access to.

On the opening of the railroad to the front, I did not feel justified in asking for such transportation, knowing that the necessities of life must be sent to the troops before luxuries. (Pickles and onions are classed *luxuries* in Georgia.) A few days since, I made a statement to Chief Quartermaster Donaldson, that we had in our store-room ten car-loads of stores, and asked for three cars, one to Chattanooga, one to Huntsville, and one to Atlanta, as soon as the exigencies of the service would permit. The application came back—"Captain Brown will furnish Christian Commission one car per day till *all* the within-mentioned stores have gone to the front." To-morrow one car goes to Chattanooga, next to Atlanta, next to Huntsville, next to Knoxville, then two or three cars to Atlanta, and the rest as we can get up the invoices.

Send on those Apples.

Now, where are those two hundred barrels of apples from Pittsburg? We want to put them into the diet-kitchens all along the line, and if possible, give to men at the front.

The demand for writing-paper keeps up. The thousand reams from Cincinnati will soon be gone. Our writing-tables are crowded at every station, and the letters we stamp and mail for soldiers who cannot get stamps will average nearly a thousand per day.

Those Fifty Boxes of Grapes.

Those fifty boxes of grapes! Nothing could have been more appropriate! The ladies went through the wards, giving them to all the men on the cots, under the direction of the surgeons. Pale thin hands contrasting with the rich purple clusters they are holding—the thanks, smiles, and sometimes tears, of the soldiers, the light step and full hearts of the distributors, and the gratified look of the surgeon and ward officials—they are things to be seen and felt, but not to be reported on paper. Every grape had its value and reached its spot. Blessings on the donors of those clusters!

X.

The Field Hospital.**Work in General Butler's Army.**

The following letter from J. R. Miller, Field Agent, presents a clear view of the work done, and the manner of it, both in the Field Hospital and in front of General Butler's Army:

OFFICE U. S. CHRISTIAN COMMISSION, }
Nineteenth Corps, Point of Rocks, Aug. 31st. }

REV. W. E. BOARDMAN, *Secretary*: Dear Brother—
Last week we moved our hospital from the place where you found it on the occasion of your last visit, and our base and front hospitals consolidated, are now located at Point of Rocks, on the Appomattox. You remember the spot. It is a beautiful location, and we will welcome the change. The locality has also a historical interest, as being the reputed scene of the rescue of Captain Smith by Pocahontas.

The front and base hospitals have been temporarily consolidated, and the consolidated hospital is now under the direction of Dr. Storrs. His executive officer, Dr.

Munn, is a gentleman of polished manners and fine taste. Having been a practical engineer, he has combined his professional skill and cultivated taste in the arrangement of the hospital tents and grounds, and when his work has been completed, he will have a model establishment, not only for order and beauty, but also for comfort.

There are now about two thousand patients in the hospital. Our establishment here consists of our chapel tent for store-room, one chapel-fly for sleeping tent, one for religious services, one wall-tent for warehouse, and one for office. I have only eight delegates at present, though I should have at least ten. Here is my mode of work in the corps and hospital. Early in the morning, six or seven delegates go in a two-horse wagon to the front, carrying with them a good quantity of reading matter and hospital stores—for every regiment at the front has a number of patients in its regimental hospital. These delegates all spend the whole forenoon in one or two brigades, taking the troops in their order on the line. They aim to see every man as they go, and either give him something, or speak a kind word to him. This "front" work I deem very important, even more so than the hospital work; and I have always aimed to keep it up as regularly as practicable. We have dinner at half-past twelve. From noon till half-past two are resting hours. From half-past two till half-past five, they spend in the hospital. Each delegate has four or five wards. In this visit no services are held. The delegate passes through his wards, speaking a word to every man, relieving his wants, as far as possible, but making the visit

as far as practicable a pastoral one. After tea, he holds a brief religious service in each ward, and thus close the day's labors. The work goes on thus from day to day, and a more delightful success could not be expected. All the delegates are in the best of spirits, and *all are hard workers*. At night all are weary, and sleep is welcome; but morning finds all refreshed, and ready and anxious to begin a new day's labors. At the front, on this part of the line, there is no picket-firing, so that we can visit every part of the line safely, and see the men at their work. This adds greatly to our work here, and enables us to make it complete and thorough. It is my aim to have every regiment visited at least once each week. In two days I intend to establish a station near the front, on the right, which will be of great utility to the men on the James.

In addition to the regular hospital here, we have a convalescent camp, which contains several hundred men. This is assigned to one delegate, who spends his afternoons among them, and in the evening holds a religious service. This part of the field is especially interesting, and gives promise of a great religious work. We will have service every evening in our chapel. I think that perhaps in many places undue importance has been given to the sanitary work to the too great exclusion of the religious. My aim has always been to make the latter the grand object, the former in every instance being of but secondary importance, yet in all cases to receive its proper attention. A proper and discreet mingling of the two objects seems to be the grand idea on which our

Commission is founded; and this idea is the same on which our Saviour labored while on earth. "He went about doing good," both "healing the sick" and "casting out devils."

J. R. MILLER, *Field Agent*.

Forty-three Days' Delegate Service.

Rev. F. P. Monfort, of Greensburgh, Indiana, renders the following interesting report of his work in the Army of the Potomac:

STATISTICS.

Number of days occupied,		43
" meetings conducted,		31
" " participated in,		5
" sermons preached,		23
" soldiers personally conversed with about their spiritual interests,		900
" benefited by gifts of Hospital stores, or personal ministrations,		1,848
" letters written for soldiers,		43
Distributed 322 Testaments, 72 Hymn and Psalm Books, 1,361 Soldiers' Books, Tracts about 4,000 pages, Pa- pers 2,725, Pamphlets 43.		

Government Stores Give Out.

A messenger, directly from the front, brings most gratifying intelligence of the admirable working of the plan adopted by the United States Christian Commission to relieve and save our brave men, fighting and falling for us in our great battles.

The Government made large provisions, but the pro-

tracted struggle and change of the line of supplies at last exhausted the stores for the wounded.

The Christian Commission had a large wagon with each corps, and one extra as a reserve. When the Government supplies began to fail, then the stores of the Commission came into requisition. In the Wilderness all the tents and "flies" of the Commission were brought into use to shelter the wounded. The same at Chancellorsville, when they were removed there, and all day Sunday, while on the way to Fredericksburg, the delegates of the Commission were *chief feeders* of the wounded heroes. The food, stimulants, refreshing drinks, and care thus given saved many lives during their removal. At Fredericksburg, also, the most timely aid was given to the surgeons. All the remaining supplies left from the field were apportioned among the thousands of wounded in Fredericksburg, to keep them alive until Government supplies should come.

The teams came on to Belle Plain to renew stock and return immediately. Three of them are to be with the front, and two at Fredericksburg, to keep up supplies. The only regret is that the force of teams, stores and men *could not have been doubled or quadrupled for so great an emergency.* The General Field Agent, John A. Cole, Esq., calls for men, stores and teams. The Commission will respond.—*Sunday School Times.*

A City of Wounded.—Washington's Home a Hospital.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., May 18, 1864.

This city is Aceldama, and a fitting receptacle for the bruised and suffering heroes that fill churches, tobacco-houses, private dwellings, and stores to overflowing.

Nearly every house is battered, and torn, and wrecked by the rain storm of fire that for twelve hours was poured upon it by Burnside. The churches, especially, have suffered fearfully. But what are the scars, and wounds, and bruises of inanimate dwellings, to those houses of the soul, which, quivering, palpitating, agonizing, lay in rows, in basement, in attic, in church, in store, patiently waiting, many of them, for the Great Physician, whose cures are only performed in the other land. It is estimated that to-day there are 7,000 wounded in this city. Nearly as fast as they are carried to Belle Plain, their places are filled by those from the front. No one can conceive of the torture which our boys experience as they ride or walk the terrible road from below some ten miles to this place. "The 'rack,'" a soldier says, "I've read of in the history of the Martyrs, but never knew what it meant till now." But it is most wonderful, the heroic fortitude, the sublimity of heroism which is manifested by these brave soldiers. It makes one proud of his manhood, proud of his country, when he sees the self-sacrifice, the beauty of patience as herein developed. Soldiers, severely wounded in the arm, aiding their lame comrades, refusing oftentimes to be served with some delicacy till their comrades are also relieved. Most gratefully do they re-

ceive even a cup of cold water, and so thankfully acknowledge the simplest act of kindness.

Many of the officers are kindly cared for at private houses. Rev. Samuel Fisk ("Dunn Browne") has the best attention from a secesh citizen, but a truly Christian Samaritan. He has a fearful wound through the right shoulder blade, the ball still lying in the region of the lungs.

Major Parker, from Worcester, of the 10th Massachusetts, a brave and heroic soul, suffers great pain from a shattered arm. Hopes are entertained of its being saved. He, too, is in a private house. The tons of ice stored here by the disloyal inhabitants, are now a most grateful luxury, and liberally used.

Language cannot tell the good the Christian and Sanitary Commissions are doing. The delegates of the former are organized into bands, and their daily duties are to visit their respective hospitals, assist in washing and dressing wounds, feeding the inmates, speaking words of cheer and hope, conducting short religious exercises, which latter is a great comfort to the many sufferers. There is a station at Belle Plain, where those who come in from Fredericksburg are met and cared for. This place, now famous, when we first looked upon it, was simply a series of low hills, covered with stunted oaks and brush, without a single house in sight. Now it presents a busy scene of activity. The hills are covered with tents, roads extemporized in every direction, and filled with supply wagons, ambulances, and army stores, as far as the eye can reach.

George H. Stuart, Esq., our efficient President, and Bishop McIlvaine are among the arrivals to-day. We feel grateful to governmental officers who favor us in every way, and who facilitate our operations. Many a noble Christian surgeon and devoted officer do we find to give us the right hand of fellowship. Among those who gave us a cordial welcome was Edward P. Walling, hospital steward of the steamer "Connecticut," who wanted some of us to aid in ministering spiritually to the six hundred wounded that were to return on that boat.

The old mansion once occupied by Mary, the mother of Washington, with its antique furniture, frescoed walls, and quaint paintings, is now used as a hospital, and the room once occupied by the "Father of his Country," now witnesses scenes of woe and agony, the result of the nation's curse—*slavery*.

The army at the front is hopeful, cheerful. No bravado, no boasting, but a steady, firm determination, and a resolve that we must conquer. Further fearful, desperate conflict is anticipated, and may be upon us at any moment.—*Congregationalist*. S. E. B.

Northampton.

Work by Night.

To the Editor of the Evening Telegraph:

PHILADELPHIA, May 24th, 1864.

SIR:—Having just returned from a week's visit to the wounded in the late battles in Virginia, in company with Bishop McIlvaine, of Ohio, it gives me great pleasure to assure the friends of those noble heroes throughout the

country that our Government is doing every thing in its power to relieve suffering, and more than any Government ever did before, and that we found the work of the Christian Commission thoroughly organized, with an efficient corps of over two hundred and fifty (250) volunteer delegates, laboring incessantly for the temporal and spiritual comfort of our soldiers.

As the result of one day's labor at the head-quarters of the Commission in Fredericksburg, we brought up with us nearly three thousand letters, written for disabled soldiers by the delegates of the Commission.

The great difficulty is the transportation of supplies. Encouraged by the generous contributions of the people to the treasury, we have made arrangements to remedy this by purchasing and sending forward two additional wagons, with eight horses. We also chartered two schooners and a tug-boat.

To make the work of the Commission more efficient on the field, we arranged for a set of delegates to work by day and another by night, so that there will be Christian men always ready to minister to the sick and wounded, and to stand by the bedside of the dying. The delegates of the Commission have accomplished a wonderful work, saving hundreds of lives, and relieving untold suffering. They are still at their posts. It remains for the Christian philanthropic people of the land to keep them supplied with the means of carrying on and increasing their labor of love.

GEORGE H. STUART,

Chairman of the United States Christian Commission.

No Beds for the Wounded.

Go into the hospitals; armless, legless men, wounds of every description. Men on the hard floor, on the bare seats of church pews, lying in one position all day, unable to stir till the nurse, going the rounds, comes to their aid. They must wait till their food comes. Some must be fed with a spoon, as if they were little children.

"O, that we could get some straw for the brave fellows," said Rev. Mr. Kimball, of the Christian Commission. He had wandered about town, searching for the article. "There is none to be had. We shall have to send to Washington for it."

"Straw! I remember two stacks, four miles out on the Spottsylvania road. I saw them last night, as I galloped from the front."

Armed with a requisition from the Provost Marshal to seize two stacks of straw, with two wagons, driven by intelligent contrabands, and four Christian Commission delegates, away we went across the battle-field of December, fording Hazel Run, gained the heights and reached the straw stacks, owned by Rev. Mr. Owen.

"By what authority do you take my property?"

"The Provost Marshal, sir."

Rev. Mr. Kimball was on the stack, pitching it down, I was pitching it in, and the young men were stowing it away.

"Are you going to pay me for it?"

"You must see the Provost Marshal, sir. If you are a loyal man, and will take the oath of allegiance, doubtless you will get your pay."

"It is pretty hard. My children are just ready to starve. I have nothing for them to eat, and you come to take my property, without paying for it."

"Yes, sir, war is hard. You must remember, sir, that there are thousands of wounded men—your wounded, as well as ours. If your children are on the point of starving, those men are on the point of dying. We must have the straw for them. What we don't take to-night, we will get in the morning. Mean while, sir, if any body attempts to take it, please to say to them that it is for the hospital, and they can't have it."

Thus, with wagons stuffed, we leave Rev. Mr. Owens, and return to make glad the hearts of several thousand men. O, how they thank us!

"Did you get it for me? God bless you, sir."

Evening Prayers.

It is evening. Thousands of soldiers, just arrived from Washington, have passed through the town to take their places in the front. The hills all around us are white with innumerable tents and thousands of wagons.

A band is playing lively airs to cheer the wounded in the hospitals. I have been looking in to see the sufferers. Two or three have gone. They will need no more attention. A surgeon is at work upon a ghastly wound, taking up the arteries. An attendant is pouring cold water upon a swollen limb. In the Episcopal church, a nurse is bolstering up a wounded officer in the area behind the altar. Men are lying in the pews, on the seats, on the floor, on boards on top of the pews.

Two candles in the spacious building throw their feeble rays into the dark recesses, faintly disclosing the reeumbent forms. There is heavy, stifled breathing, as of constant effort to suppress involuntary cries extorted by acutest pain. Hard it is to see them suffer, and not be able to relieve them.

Passing into the street, you see a group of women, talking about *our* wounded—rebel wounded, who are receiving their especial attention. The Provost Marshal's patrol is going its rounds to preserve order.

Starting down the street, you reach the rooms of the Christian Commission. Some of the men are writing, some eating their rations, some dispensing supplies. Passing through the rooms, you gain the grounds in the rear—a beautiful garden once—not inattractive now. The air is redolent with honeysuckle and locust blossoms. The pennifolia is unfolding its delicate milk-white petals; roses are opening their tinted leaves.

Fifty men are gathered round a summer-house—warm-hearted men—who have been all day in the hospital. Their hearts have been wrung by the scenes of suffering, in the exercise of Christian charity imitating the example of the Redeemer of men. They have given bread for the body and food for the soul. They have given cups of cold water in the name of Jesus, and prayed with those departing to the silent land. The moonlight shimmers through the leaves of the locust.

The little congregation breaks into singing—

“Come, thou fount of every blessing.”

After the hymn, a chaplain says: "Brethren, I had service, this afternoon, in the first division hospital of the second corps. The surgeon in charge, before prayer, asked all who desired to be prayed for, to raise their hands, and nearly every man who had a hand, raised it. Let us remember them in our prayers to-night."

A man in the summer-house—so far off, that I cannot distinguish him in the shadow—says: "There is manifestly a spirit of prayer among the soldiers in the second division of the sixth corps hospital. Every man there raised his hand for prayers!"

Similar remarks are made by others, and then there are earnest prayers offered that God will bless them, relieve their sufferings, give them patience, restore them to health; that he will remember the widow and fatherless far away—that Jesus may be their friend.

Ah! this night scene! There was an allusion, by one who prayed, to the garden scene of Gethsemane, the blood of the son of God, and in connection to the blood shed for our country. You who are far away, can understand but little of the reality of these scenes. Friends, every where, you have given again and again, but continue to give; you cannot repay these brave defenders of our country. Give as God has prospered you, and great shall be your reward. Faint, feeble, tame, lifeless is this attempt to portray the scenes of a day at Fredericksburg. Picture it as you may, and you will fall short of the reality.—*Congregationalist*.

XI.

Diet Kitchens.

The sick and wounded suffer greatly from the imperfect cookery of the soldier nurses. To remedy this evil, a number of ladies have offered themselves as delegates of the Christian Commission, and arrangements have been made with the medical authorities to establish Diet Kitchens, where suitable food may be prepared by ladies' hands for our sick soldiers,—the Government furnishing the staple articles, and the Christian Commission providing the ladies and the delicacies and cordials. One of these at Knoxville is thus described by a correspondent of *The Lutheran*:—

“There have been several large hospitals in this city, but recently they have been all consolidated into one. In connection with this hospital is a ‘Special Diet Kitchen.’ Many of our readers will doubtless wonder what these ‘Special Diet Kitchens’ are. They have been originated by Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, of Keokuk, State Sanitary Agent of Iowa. In her arduous labors in the army of the Cumberland, she met with a large number of

patients who suffer for want of suitably prepared, delicate and nutritious food. None of the benevolent institutions in connection with the army have been able to reach this class of persons. She says, in her report to the General Assembly of the State: 'This matter has given me serious and anxious thought for the past year, but I have recently submitted to the Christian Commission a plan by which I believe this class of patients may be reached and relieved. The plan proposed, is the establishment of 'Special Diet Kitchens,' in connection with that Commission, to be superintended by earnest, prudent Christian women, who will secure the distribution of proper food to this class of patients—taking such delicate articles of food as our good people supply *to the very bed-sides* of the poor languishing soldiers, and administering, with words of encouragement and sympathy, to their pressing wants; such persons to co-operate with the surgeons in all their efforts for the sick.' This plan of operation has been sanctioned and adopted by the United States Christian Commission. There is one in successful operation at Nashville, under the direction, I believe, of a daughter of the Hon. J. K. Morehead, of Pittsburgh. The one here is under the direction of Mrs. R. E. Conrad, of Keokuk, Iowa, and her two sisters. Here is an instance of unexampled patriotism. This mother gave to our country's cause, her two only sons who have died either amid the smoke and din of the fierce-raging battle, or in the crowded hospital. When the call came for Christian women, she generously gave her remaining children, three noble daughters, to the same glorious

cause. Where is the instance in history of a widowed mother sending all her children, both sons and daughters, to serve her country in the hour of great danger and deep distress? Where the country that has produced such noble women as that of our own? It is true, England has her Florence Nightingale, but America has her hundreds of women, who sacrifice the peace and quiet of sweet homes and loved associations, to endure trials and hardships amid the desolating track of wasting armies. They are doing a great and good work now in Knoxville. From three to five hundred patients are thus daily supplied with delicate food, who would otherwise have scarcely any thing to eat. The success of their labors has demonstrated beyond a doubt the practicability of the plan of Mrs. Wittenmyer. The good resulting from their arduous labors proves that much can be done by these special efforts to rescue those who are laid upon languishing beds of sickness and pain, and have passed almost beyond the reach of ordinary means. The great need we have in connection with these 'Diet Kitchens,' is the want of canned fruits, jellies, preserves, etc. If our good people, who have already done so much, will provide these necessary means, they will be distributed to the most needy, and in such a way as to accomplish the most good. All praise to the noble women in connection with our armies! May God abundantly bless their labors to the salvation of many precious souls."

The War Department is so well satisfied with the value of these Diet Kitchens, in saving the lives of thousands

of invalids, that it has issued the following Special Order:—

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 362.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJT. GEN. OFFICE,)
Washington, D. C., Oct. 24, 1864. }

[EXTRACT.]

* * * * 56. Permission to visit the United States General Hospitals, within the lines of the several Military Departments of the United States, for the purpose of superintending the preparation of food in the Special Diet Kitchens of the same, is hereby granted Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, Special Agent United States Christian Commission, and such ladies as she may deem proper to employ, by request of United States surgeons. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

By order of the Secretary of War.

(Official.)

E. D. TOWNSEND,

Assistant Adjutant General.

Consolidated light diet List of United States Army General Hospital No. 2, Chattanooga, Tennessee, for September, 1864.

RATIONS.

Mackerel,	-	-	-	-	-	-	Total, 1,413
Soup, mutton or beef,	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,096
“ vegetable,	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,772
“ oyster,	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,716
“ chicken,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,420

Fresh vegetables,	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,050
Roast potatoes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,748
Bread and butter,	-	-	-	-	-	-	29,635
Toast, milk,	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,145
“ butter,	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,191
“ dry,	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,785
Jellies, or preserves,	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Eggs, boiled or poached,	-	-	-	-	-	-	134
“ fried or scrambled,	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Krout or pickles,	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,890
Fruits, canned,	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,283
“ fresh or dried,	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,477
Baked apples,	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,414
Tomatoes,	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,300
Pudding, farinaceous,	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,567
Blanc mange,	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gruel,	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,226
Custard, boiled,	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Tapioca,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,562
Rice, boiled,	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,302
Barley,	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,863
Mush and milk	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,193
Cheese,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,768
Tea,	-	-	-	-	-	-	30,221
Corn bread,	-	-	-	-	-	-	596
Coffee,	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,719
Milk punch,	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,929

236,408

XII.

At the Front.

The Trains of Wounded.

A long train of army wagons, filled with wounded from the front, came into Martinsburg about 10½ o'clock, P. M., on Wednesday, 8th October. The men had been put in at 6 A. M., and had been jolting along the rough road all day. They were hungry and thirsty and sore. "They kept pounding, pounding, pounding us all day," said one poor fellow, with a broken leg. The town was silent; every person out after taps, being halted by the pickets. "Won't nobody give me a drink of water?" could be heard from many a wagon. Just at that moment, Mr. G. S. Griffiths, of Baltimore, and Dr. Patterson, of Chicago, arrived with a strong force of the delegates of the Christian Commission. A barrel of soda biscuits was opened, bottles of jelly and tins of chicken-soup were speedily discussed. Help was given to bring the poor fellows into the churches, which were soon filled—basement, audience-chamber, pulpit and gallery—with wounded heroes, some of whom were so overcome by loss of blood and fatigue, that they fell asleep before their wounds were dressed. One man, seeing Brother McCord

passing with a basin, said: "I have two dollars here; it is all I have. I will give it to you, if you will dress my wound." It was 3 A.M. before they were all fed and cleansed; at that hour, the faithful surgeons and army nurses were still at their posts; and when we returned, early in the morning, they were busy getting breakfast, and preparing their patients for the march.

It was near 11 o'clock before they could all be served with breakfast, and some would have had none, owing to the overworked state of the nurses, had I not got a cheese and, with Brother Whittier and our negro boy George, gone round them with bread and cheese. You never saw children more eager for honey. 'Chaplain, this way; I hain't had cheese for a year.' 'Captin, that 'ere mite of cheese did me a power of good—more'n all the medicine I've had for six weeks; you couldn't spare another bite?' Then we went round with paper and envelopes, which were in great demand. We had not Testaments and Hymn-books for half those who asked them.

"What is all this for?" said one poor wounded lad, as he accepted one small favor after another. 'Is all this for the Union?' We explained that it was for Christ's sake and the country's. 'Who wouldn't fight for his country?' said an armless boy, to whom Brother Swobe gave some bread and honey. 'Just look at that, boys.' Said an elderly man; 'I have received more kindness from you men since I came into this house, than I have got since I came into the army.' 'Well,' said an Irishman, standing by, 'that's just the way them Christian men went on with us all the way on the boats up the Red River expedition.' When about to leave, I ad-

dressed those in the Presbyterian church, and proposed prayer; every head was uncovered, and many a hearty benediction on the Commission was invoked by these wounded heroes.

The Christian Commission was at the front with its horses, wagons, stores and delegates, during the late battle; and promptly despatched large quantities additional, upon the receipt of the first dispatches announcing the late glorious victory. As we write, additional delegates and stores are being despatched to the Shenandoah. The men who won that glorious victory at the cost of their blood, surely deserve every succor we can send them. Trains of 1200, of 700, of 400 have arrived in Martinsburg and Winchester, and they will continue to be cared for by the personal, direct ministrations of our delegates.

Four Christian Commission tea-pots, each holding a bushel, are promptly set to prepare the cup which cheers, but not inebriates, on the approach of each train; and on the recommendation of the surgeons, pails of punch are prepared and distributed to the fainting and exhausted. "Have you any wounded in this wagon, driver?" "Yes, two; one is a Reb, and one of ours." "Well, give each of them a cup of that punch." "What! give punch to Rebs?" "Why not? If the man is fainting, it won't hurt him." "That is new doctrine," said an officer, standing by. "That is the Christian Commission doctrine. If thine enemy hunger, feed him. If he thirst, give him drink." "Well," said he, after a moment's reflection, "I go in for that Commission."

Dr. Patterson.

Work Done Under the Rebel Guns.

The following record of a day's labor at the front, in the service of the Christian Commission, shows prominently one of the most distinguishing and blessed features of the Commission's work. Its place, right here, has never been supplied by any other agency. Were it not for the prompt relief given by these noble Christian delegates, who fly to the scene of a fresh battle with the eager haste of a father seeking the physician for his sick child, hundreds upon hundreds of precious lives would be lost to the country, to the church, and to the world.

The writer, Walter S. Carter, Esq., is the member of the Christian Commission for Wisconsin, also State Sunday-school Secretary, for Wisconsin, and is well known as one of the energetic Sunday-school spirits of the West. We think that the Christian Commission has done well to select its many workers from the ranks of the Sunday-school, and to choose its leaders from among the generals of the Sabbath-school army:

"Thursday, Sept. 29th, 1864, the day after our arrival, we spent laboring in the general hospital of the Army of the Potomac, near City Point. During the day, heavy firing north of the James, in the direction of Richmond, told us that a battle was in progress. Early next morning, in company with Rev. Drs. Schaff, of New York, and Charpiot, of Connecticut, we went to City Point, and procuring passes from Gen. Patrick, Provost Marshal General of the armies operating against Richmond, took a steamer for Broadway Landing, on the Appomattox. Proceeding thence toward the general hospital of the

army of the James, at Point of Rocks, about a mile distant, we met several of the guns taken from the enemy the day before, being sent to City Point. Arriving at the hospital, we found that several hundred of our wounded had already reached there. We at once went to work alleviating their sufferings as far as possible, pointing them, as we had opportunity, to the Saviour who suffered for them, until about three o'clock in the afternoon, when, with a considerable reinforcement to our numbers, on the top of a large four-horse wagon of the Commission, loaded full of supplies, we started for the front. Emerging from the woods into an open field near the James, the rapid discharge of artillery, intermingled with the continuous crash of musketry, apprised us of a renewal of the contest, by the rebels attempting to retake the works captured by us the day before. We hurried on, arriving at Aiken's Landing about five, crossing the river on the muffled pontoon thrown across by the 18th corps on Wednesday evening. Pushing on up the Varina road, we soon came across the skirmish line held by the enemy at the time of the advance of our forces, and a little further on, another and stronger line, not yet completed. Entering a thick pine wood, night and rain overtook us. Ahead of us was a long train of army wagons, behind us a large number of ambulances. By us, every moment, dashed horsemen—some toward the front, others toward the rear. In the woods, on either hand, our men were kindling fires to dry their clothes and make their coffee. Still, along we went, until, turning to the right, we entered the ample grounds of the

Cox mansion, where we found the flying hospital already established. The yard was full of tents, filled with wounded men—officers of all grades, and privates, loyal and rebel, white and black soldiers. Hundreds had already arrived, and more were constantly coming. From every quarter, moans of agony and cries of help could be heard, but none there were to answer them. Every soldier who had gone through the two days' terrible conflict unharmed, was standing, that dark, rainy, autumn night, without food or drink, with his face to the foe, in the trenches a mile in advance of us. The surgeons had prepared their operating tables, and were already at their awful work.

Getting permission of Dr. Richardson, surgeon in charge of the hospital, we immediately pitched our tent and went to work. An adjoining house was sought, a fire built, a large kettle of water put over, and very soon several gallons of coffee were made. Condensed milk and sugar were then added, pails filled, and provided with tin cups, our seven delegates went forth on the most blessed errand that ever engaged a Christian hand, or enlisted the sympathies of a Christian heart. Into every tent they went, until there was not a wounded man but had been abundantly supplied. Then going back to the Commission tent, boxes were filled with fresh, soft crackers, and again the circuit of the tents was made, and the men helped to all they would have. Then more coffee was carried around, and after that, in cases where it was thought necessary, Jamaica ginger or brandy were given to the men. Then another visit to the tent was made, a

supply of shirts and drawers obtained, and these were put upon such as needed them. "God bless you," "God bless the Christian Commission," were exclamations we heard almost every moment.

"We never expected such treatment as this," said a wounded rebel to a delegate. "Give me your name, so that when the war is over, I can come and see you, and thank you better than I can now," said another. With such opportunities, how could we help telling one, whose wounds were eloquent of the story of his bravery, that while it was a noble thing to be a brave soldier of one's country, far nobler, indeed, was it, to be also a brave soldier of Jesus. To one groaning with suffering, how fitting that we should remind him of what the Redeemer had suffered for him. To one asking for drink, how easy to introduce the subject of salvation, by the exclamation of the Saviour on the cross, "I thirst." Engaged in such a work, the hours went by unnoticed—seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, and one, were gone before we even tried to sleep. Going into the house, we wrapped our blankets around us, and lay down on the floor; but scarcely had we done so, when word came that twenty more ambulance loads of wounded had arrived. Up we arose at once, and again coffee, crackers, etc., were distributed to the sufferers. Making a second attempt to get a little rest, we were hardly asleep when Surgeon Richardson came and informed us that we were so near the lines, that in the event of the enemy's renewing the attack at day-light, as was expected, their shells would reach our camp. Immediately our tent was struck, the supplies again loaded into the wagon, and by the time

the army train was ready to move, we were prepared to take our place in line. Proceeding up the road, to the rear of the Tenth Corps, we halted two or three hours, when we returned to a large house, some distance to the rear, formerly the headquarters of Gen. Lee, where the hospital was established, and whence the wounded were conveyed to the Base Hospital, at Point of Rocks."

S. School Times.

In the Trenches.

Every day, after I went to the front, I found as much as six smarter men than I could accomplish, and although it was a time of comparative quiet, and, hence, did not present those cases of deep pathetic power which are met only in the great battles or in isolated instances, yet the work grew in interest and importance. I could but ask myself, every day, if enough had been done in the trenches. It seems to me more is needed. There are naked men, their shirts having been torn off by accident; there are galled feet, there are blisters. Thread and buttons needed, and all the little comforts of camp life, which the postponed pay-days have not permitted the soldiers to buy; and, above all, a thirst for the word of life, which Chaplains cannot supply unless they are sleepless and omnipresent. I usually distributed my reading matter in regiments without Chaplains, with the aid of pious soldiers, always choosing privates if I could get them, thus helping them to an agreeable change of occupation. My words were few in giving out these things. I found the men more ready to converse half an hour afterwards, and I generally returned soon on my path and sat down on the

bunks with them, talked with them just as I should be talked with, and was never once bluffed off by indirect answers. I was received unkindly three or four times, not more than that. These tent conversations were close personal applications of some truth, generally of the Christian inward life, as I thought I had better success in impressing duties from that direction. I went also with cordials and medicines for incipient cases of diarrhœa, going as often as I could to fatigue parties on the works; then they would always gather round me, and I'd gather up a few moments to speak of the waters of life, or cry to the thirsty, (Isa. 55: 1,) showing them in very few words how unreasonable to be without religion; as I could do with such ready illustrations as their eager thirst always gave me; and sometimes the men would be ordered to sit down, and ten or fifteen minutes given me, in which to address them. Many such a party I have seen bathed in tears, none trying to conceal their feelings.

I have described the work I tried to do, thus, at length, for it seems to me more delegates should be all the time doing it. I know there is danger in it. I've heard the song of too many sharpshooters' bullets not to know it. But there is the work, and he is not a true Christian Delegate who won't do it, if permitted. I've never seen one flinch yet.

I hope I shall be excused for this length, but I want the work in the front increased.

Respectfully,

C. S. NICHOLS.

The Cooking Wagon.

"As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals, and fish laid thereon. and bread. Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine." John 21 : 9-12.

I must refer, particularly, to one prominent feature of their work for weary, wounded bodies on this day, which, for its novelty and usefulness, deserves especial attention. Some of the newspapers have mentioned a new cooking-wagon, presented by the inventor, Mr. Dunton of Phila. to the Christian Commission, which is thoroughly *sui generis*. It is constructed somewhat like a battery caisson, so that the parts can be unlimbered and separated from each other. The "limber," or forward part, bears a large chest, which is divided into compartments, to contain coffee, tea, sugar and corn-starch, with a place also for two gridirons and an axe. From the rear portion rise three tall smoke-pipes, above three large boilers, under which there is a place for the fire, and under the fire a box for the fuel. Each boiler will hold fourteen gallons; and it is estimated that in each one, on the march, ten gallons of tea, or coffee, or chocolate, could be made in twenty minutes—thus giving ninety gallons of nourishing drink every hour. It is truly a most ingenious and beneficent invention.

There was a call for coffee. A party of delegates at once volunteered to respond to the call. The fires were lighted, the water boiled, the coffee made, and soon the vehicle, drawn by two powerful horses, and attended by half a score of willing laborers, was on its way, from division to division. Up the hospital avenue it rumbled and rolled, passed the long rows of white tents, stopping

at this cluster and that, giving to all from its generous supply.

You should have seen the wondering look of the men as it passed by. They rolled themselves over to get a glimpse of it. They stretched their necks for a sight at it. The wounded heads forgot to ache, and the wounded limbs almost forgot to cry out for nursing in that moment of eager curiosity. Was it a new sort of ambulance? It didn't look like one. What did those three black pipes mean, and those three glowing fires? Is it a steam fire-engine, and are they going to give us a shower-bath? But the savory odor that saluted their nostrils, and the delicious beverage the engine poured into their tin cups, soon put the matter beyond all doubt. They soon found that there was no necromancy about it, for it had a substantial blessing for each one of them, and they gave it their blessings in return. One by one such as were able, crowded about it with curious faces, and the wagon, as it stood steaming and glowing in the midst, was the theme of many affectionate comments.

"I say, Bill, ain't that a bully machine?"

"Yes, *sir*; it's the greatest institution I ever saw."

"That's what you call the Christian Light Artillery," says a third.

"Good deal pleasanter ammunition in it than the rebs sent us this morning."

"Well, doctor," said a delegate to a surgeon, "what do you think of this?"

"I thank the Lord for it; that's all I can say," was the reply.

And so, on a sudden, the new invention was crowned with the praises and benedictions of the admiring crowd. It was a marked feature in the work of the day, and must be set down as one of the "peculiar institutions" of the Commission.

Coffee and Bullets for a Division.

Mr. J. A. Cole has put the Cooking Wagon to a new use, refreshing our battle-worn veterans on the field. He says:

"The coffee-wagon was kept at work, and was really a means of giving a great deal of comfort. It was taken to the lines, where bullets flew about it, and every soldier in the division that made the charge, capturing the fort on Chapin's farm, had a good drink of hot coffee—what they had not had for three wet muddy days. The machine is getting to be very popular.

XIII.

The Battle-field.

The following extracts from published documents, newspaper correspondents, and letters from gentlemen of well-known standing, who have had opportunities for personal observation of the practical working of the Commission, will enable the reader to form some faint idea of the horrors of war, and of the blessed influence of the gospel in relieving them:

The Battle-field.

The character of the battle-field, during the first twelve days of Grant's advance, and its effect upon the condition of our soldiers, are thus described by the Rev. A. M. Stewart, Chaplain of the 102d Pennsylvania regiment:—"Small streams, swamps, low ranges of hills, thick woods with dense underbrush, and they on the *defensive*. Invariably do they await the attack. Our brave soldiers have to advance against them by wading through creeks and swamps,—tearing through thick bushes and dense undergrowth, in which many of them have their clothes almost

torn from off them ; often not discovering the enemy until their deadly fire, a few rods distant, reveals their presence and strong position. The fighting of the past ten days much more resembles the old backwoods' contests with the Indians, than modern or what may be termed civilized warfare. Often, on account of thick woods, our fighting soldiers are not able to see a dozen of their comrades, or scarcely obtain a glimpse of the enemy, who, at the same time, is discharging such deadly volleys. Many, many a brave soldier has been left unburied to decay in these jungles, with no living person to tell where he lies.

To fight and maintain discipline under such conditions, requires the most exalted courage and devotion. This army of the Potomac has started for Richmond, and seems determined to go there, no matter how many enemies and other obstacles may stand in the way. All opposition must finally yield to obstinate and persevering valor."

The Government Provision for the Wounded.

The Government provision for the wounded is the most ample ever made, and under ordinary conditions of warfare would be sufficient. But over such a country, and for battles lasting for weeks, waged with such determined obstinacy, and leaving whole armies of slain, no Government can provide. Each regiment is provided with a surgeon, two assistant surgeons, a hospital steward, and soldiers detailed to serve as nurses, according to the emergency, and the possibility of meeting it. A brigade consists, generally, of four regiments. A division of two or more brigades, with a proportion of cavalry and artil-

lery. The chief medical officer is the medical director of the division. He selects three of the best surgeons of the division as operating surgeons, and to each of these, three assistant operating surgeons, a commissary, and hospital steward,—who, when a battle begins, fall out of the line of march, select a farm-house, church, school-house or barn, or even a grove or tree, if no better shelter can be had, out of the line of fire, and there establish the field-hospital. Their wagon-load of stores is brought up, and they await the return of the ambulances with the wounded. The other surgeons march on with the men, carrying their pocket cases of instruments, ready to give such aid as they can, amidst the roar of battle, to the brave men who are falling fast beside them. Thirty ambulances, each furnished with two spring cots, a driver and two nurses, begin to remove the wounded, as soon as possible, from the thickets, swamps, and rifle-pits, where they have fallen. Where hundreds, and even thousands, have been wounded in a single division, their removal from four to fourteen miles must occupy several days. During all this time many of our poor fellows lie faint, with loss of blood and hunger, burning with thirst from the fever of their wounds and the sulphurous smoke. Men have offered in vain a hundred dollars for a drink of water, while lying burning under a Virginia sun. Many whose wounds are not mortal, perish from neglect. Besides our own, it must be remembered that the enemy, leaving us in possession of the battle-field, leaves to us the care of his wounded; and, to their honor be it recorded, our over-worked surgeons have always cared for

them—working by night, as well as by day, yet unable to do the work of weeks in a few days.

Sufferings from Neglect.

A correspondent of the *American Presbyterian* thus describes the sufferings our brave men endure for want of prompt succor:—

“As we dressed their wounds, many of them not touched since they left the battle-field, six days before, and almost none dressed for three or four days, some of them never dressed except by a companion’s hand; bullet-holes on each side of a leg or arm, where the ball had gone in and come out; ghastly wounds, in shoulder or face, where it had dashed in and lost itself; wounds, all festering and offensive, we were in a perpetual wonder, and in a sort of tearful and speechless admiration, which became intense as the cheerful ‘Thank you, sir,’ was given, and never one murmur of dissatisfaction or complaint escaped or was thought of. Surely, never has the world seen such men. I have before me now a boy—that was all he was—who came to me, asking me to dress his wound. It was through and through an arm or leg, I cannot say which now; there have been too many under my hand since to permit me to be certain. ‘When, my boy, was this wound dressed?’ I asked, as moistening the bandage, I disclosed the frightful holes, all festering and offensive—frightful then, but very simple and scarcely to be noticed now. ‘It was not dressed at all, sir, only by the teamster, four days ago.’ And this was said with a cheery voice and a pleasant smile. I dressed them, and was almost ashamed to hear the sweet and cheerful thanks that followed.

The Chaplains Cannot do this Work.

A chaplain thus writes in the *American Presbyterian*:

"Chaplains cannot do the work. They are generally to be found at the brigade and division hospitals on the field, where the wounded are first brought, and from which they are forwarded as speedily as possible to this place or to Washington. If a chaplain comes here, he must look up the wounded of his own command, who are scattered through, perhaps, twenty hospitals, in various parts of the city, so that his time and strength are frittered away in the mere motion from place to place. But a delegate of the Commission has his own ward to attend to, where he nurses the men, and dresses their wounds, and supplies their wants, and furnishes religious reading, and holds his religious meetings, without reference to the regiments from which they come. Besides this, *they* come fresh from home; while the army nurses and chaplains are fagged out with excessive marching, and weakened by scant rations or poor fare. They keep up their strength by the excitement of novel scenes and employment, and then go home, in two or three weeks, to recover from the fatigues and privations of their present life, amid the delights and good fare of home; but we must go on, with no such hope to cheer us, and no such novelty to excite.

"But I see that already the work is wearing on them. The care-worn face, the drooping form, the weary step, show that in these abundant labors they are wearing down; and I rejoice that they may soon exchange this work for the quiet, and rest, and regular meals at home. The intolerable stench of gun-shot wounds, and the stoop-

ing posture in dressing the wounds, or in any way helping or talking to men lying on the floor, rapidly wear out and sicken those engaged in this benevolent work. There is work here for many more self-denying men, and new recruits for this army of toil ought daily to supply the vacancies which may occur in the ranks.

“On the Sunday between the fight at the Wilderness and the fight at Spottsylvania, exhausted with the heat, and dust, and confusion of a march, rendered doubly wearisome by the contrast with the holy calm of a Sabbath at home, I stopped at a well, round which was gathered a crowd of thirsty soldiers, and found a delegate of the Christian Commission, drawing up the bucket, time after time, to fill the canteens and cups of eager men with clear, refreshing water—emblem of the living water, which whosoever drinks, shall thirst no more. A very appropriate work, I thought it, for a disciple of Him who said that he who should give a cup of cold water in His name, should not lose his reward.”

Help in Need.

Just here the Christian Commission comes in with its regularly organized system of delegates, marching with every corps of the army, provided with cordials and stores, regularly organized by the Government and Lieutenant-General, and foremost on the field to seek the wounded and succor them. The *New York Herald's* correspondents, in their attempts to reach the line of battle, have tried to assume the character of delegates, well knowing that our soldiers expect the Christian Commission at the front. Besides those marching with the army,

a host of minute men are summoned by telegraph to their assistance, in such numbers as the emergency requires.

These delegates and minute men, are gentlemen who offer their gratuitous services for the succor of our wounded soldiers. They hold themselves in readiness to start, at the command of the Chairman of the Commission, for any battle-field where wounded men need relief. Merchants, mechanics, lawyers, physicians, ministers of the gospel, professors of colleges, members of Congress, mayors of Boston and other cities, and bishops of the Episcopal and Methodist Episcopal churches, have solicited the honor of wearing the badge of the Christian Commission, which gave them the right to wash and feed our bleeding heroes, to bind up their wounds, and to clothe them with clean linen, when their blood-stained garments must be cast aside. Over four hundred such gentlemen are now in Virginia, engaged in these labors of love, —writing letters for the wounded to their friends at home, easing the agonizing suspense of many a mother and wife, and speaking words of consolation to the suffering soldier. Knowing that religion is the only true comfort in life, and the only preparation for death, they point the wounded soldiers to the Great Physician, tell them of forgiveness of sins through his blood, and unite in prayer with the dying for God's mercy to his soul. Then gathering up his little relics, with a lock of his hair, they write the sad story to the widow or bereaved mother, with the last message of her darling, and transmit the precious parcel by express or mail. The Chairman of the Commission brought up with him, on a recent visit

to the Wilderness, three thousand letters and parcels. Knowing the repugnance which our soldiers feel, and express, against being "buried like dogs," they secure Christian burial for the dead, improve the solemn service for the benefit of the spectators, and mark the grave over which, perhaps, affection may shed its tears and plant its flowers in better days. In a word, the delegate of the Christian Commission is the *soldier's brother*.

A Veteran of the Old Stock.

One of the most efficient delegates of the Christian Commission to the Army of the Potomac, is Rev. Nathaniel R. Gates, of the family of Gen. Gates, of revolutionary fame. Mr. Gates was a drummer in the war of 1812, rose to the rank of captain, and then became a preacher of the denomination termed the United Brethren in Christ. He is now in the sixty-ninth year of his age, is a resident of Pennsylvania, bears a strong resemblance to the late Lyman Beecher, and has eight sons in the army. Few, if any, of the younger delegates can compete with him in labors.—*Congregationalist*.

Rev. Robert Parvin, of Philadelphia, thus describes this

Help for the Wounded.

"Bear in mind, Mr. Chairman and Christian friends, that we go as agents of the United States Christian Commission, not solely to carry tracts, and books, and papers. If that be the idea of any, it is a mistaken idea. The great idea is to go in the spirit of the Lord, who cared for the bodies as well as for the souls of men. And

we minister to both. We go as our blessed Lord and Master went, to care for the poor, and naked, and halt and blind; and we go not in the spirit of the bearers of charity, but to carry the thank-offerings of the people of the North to the brave fellows who are suffering for them, who have *won*, fairly *won* all, and more than all, that we could possibly bring them.

We go not merely to look at the field. Let me show you the starting scene when our delegates start out upon their work. When the news came to Philadelphia, that something terrible was going on at Antietam, we knew not what, word was sent to a few of us who were down on the roll, as "minute men,"—men ready to go at a minute's warning,—that we were wanted to go that night. We met in a room, ready to go. Our equipments were there waiting for us. We gathered from them some idea of practical work in the field, of the sorrowful mission that was before us. Here on the floor lay a great bundle of blankets. Each delegate must take one of them—he is supposed to endure hardship as a good soldier. There is a pile of tin pails, he must take one of these, as he will have to carry water from the nearest spring; and there is a pile of tin cups, he must bear the cooling drink to the thirsting lips, and he cannot do without this. And there, too, is a pile of haversacks. Each delegate takes one of these. He will need it himself; he must have something by him to sustain his own life, but he will need it more, especially to carry some soft, fresh bread to give to the poor fellows who have had only "hard-tack," and who, through wounds, sick-

ness, and infirmity, are unable longer to eat it. He will find many on the extremity of the field who have been neglected for days, and possibly for a whole week; and when he comes to such he must have his food with him, he cannot stop now and run back to get it—it must be on hand when the extremity requires it. There also we find a pile of little bull's-eye lanterns. Each delegate is to take one of these. Why are these wanted? Ah, he begins to have an idea of the work before him. He is to be out on the field at night. There are not avenues lighted up by gas to direct him in his solitary work. His work is to be in the woods or in the wilderness which the havoc of war has made desolate. He must have a light that he may not stumble over the dead or the wounded; he must look after and seek out each patient sufferer, and care for them all.

Thus equipped, he starts out. At the time to which I refer, six or eight of us started at midnight from Philadelphia for the battle field of Antietam. Reaching Monocacy River, we found the bridge destroyed, and we had to land our goods on the banks and cross them over the best way we could, in a Babel of confusion. Soon we reached Fredericksburg and saw long trains of wounded who had come down from South Mountain and the battle field of Antietam. Here began a work which I have not time to describe. Churches were turned into hospitals. You call for men to bring in boards and cover the tops of the pews all around; and if boards cannot be had, you tear out the pews, and bring in the straw or hay taken from the nearest stack, and you are ready to

receive the patients. Then come down the long train of ambulances. You go to the brave fellows in them, you bear them out, you bear them gently, for they are great sufferers with terrible wounds, you lay them on the floor, up and down, in great rows, leaving space between them only enough to go in and out among them, and there you minister to them in this the time of their need.

This is something of the practical work of the Christian Commission on the battle field. It does not answer when we take these brave fellows out of the ambulances, or take them from the field as we see them lying there, to take a tract or Testament, and lay it on his wounds, and standing off, say: "My dear fellow, I am sorry for you; here is something for you to read!" This is not what he wants just then! No! You go to him as I have gone, and taking my own knife from my pocket, have cut the bloody-clotted shirt off, inch by inch, because it could not otherwise be removed from him—he had been lying in it all night—and use then the sponge, and the water, and the other appliances for his comfort. Then bring out of our stores, as we can, the clean shirt and the clean drawers, and put them on him—and what a new breath the dear fellow gives! He begins to revive. There is hope there. His face beams with grateful recognition. Now you may, perhaps, take him by the hand and talk to him. Now you may say to him, "My dear fellow, there is a robe of righteousness which your soul needs. Christ has wrought it for you. He brought it from heaven. He is ready to bestow it upon you.

You may receive it, if you want it. Would you not like to have it, too? May we talk with you and pray with you?" "Yes, you may!" I have never found it otherwise. Many men have we seen thus cared for. They are touched to the heart by these ministrations. The delegate is beckoned to the knapsack, or the hand of the soldier is turned to it to find the little Testament, and if speech be wanting, the eyes invite us to read the inscription on the fly-leaf; they want us to know this story, "I was a Sunday-school boy at home, there is my name in the book which my teacher, or perhaps my mother gave me before I went away," and you have gained the man. You now have access to his soul through his body, you have cared for one, administered to the other, and you have been gladly, warmly, gratefully received.

A Grateful German.

Passing from these, how the eye of a suffering German soldier kindled as it rested upon my badge, while, in the best English he could command, he expressed his appreciation of our enterprise! "Ah, das ish te Christian Commission. He's te pesht man in the army. Him saves my life. He comes round when we lays in te Wilderness, all two days and two nights, ant no preat and no vater, ant no Doctor, and shust pick up all uv um, ant give um preat ant vater, ant nurse um. O, he so goot! He's te pesht man in te army. Him work shust like a nigger."

Rev. F. P. Monfort.

XIV.

Prisoners.

If Thine Enemy Hunger, Feed Him.

A correspondent of the *Philadelphia Press*, one of the delegates, thus writes:—

“At five o’clock on the evening of the 6th of May, I landed at Belle Plain. Half an hour afterwards, a train of ambulances came in from the front, bringing 120 seriously wounded officers. These men had been sixteen hours in the ambulances, riding over the rough roads, and nearly dead from fatigue, to say nothing of the suffering they endured from their wounds. To thirty of these I gave, with my own hands, each a cup of coffee a piece of bread, a piece of meat and an orange. Every one, with tears in his eyes, invoked God’s blessing upon the Christian Commission. They had not eaten any thing for twenty-four hours. The following day, in the afternoon, a train of ambulances, bearing some 400 wounded, came in. They were men who had been left upon the field, and whose wounds had not been dressed for sixteen days. Being accustomed to the work, I as-

sisted a surgeon in dressing their wounds, and many of them I dressed alone. I never saw men in such a condition, either before or since. Many had died on the way. These the delegates of the Commission had buried at Belle Plain. At this time there were at Belle Plain some 5,000 rebel prisoners. While on my round of duty, I neared the rebel camp. Passing a log hog-pen, I looked in and there discovered four rebels lying on the ground, evidently sick. I went in and found that two of them had the bloody flux, one the camp fever, the other diarrhoea, with chills and fever. I went back to the headquarters of the Commission, procured blankets, medicines, and nourishment, and came again to these miserable men, gave them medicine, made beds for them, and gave them food. They cried like children. Two of them said they were Christians, and desired me to pray with them, which I did. I started for and arrived at Fredericksburg. Here there were about 11,000 wounded. I was immediately sent to the Fifth Army Corps Hospital, and labored there day and night, dressing wounds, distributing stores and reading matter, talking to and praying for the sufferers—praying and talking with the dying, and writing letters for them. It was a blessed privilege to be so occupied.”

Can't Stand It.

Rev. Mr. Merrill, of Portland, Maine, after the battle of Antietam, found a number of wounded rebels in a barn and barn-yard, deserted by their surgeons, with no well man near to help them—the dying and the dead lying together for three days, amid the filth of the barn-yard, without food or drink. He immediately carried drink to

them, procured ambulances, and proceeded to remove them to the field hospital; first relieving their hunger with the supplies brought in the ambulances, and then beginning to wash them from the filth in which they had been left lying by their own officers and comrades. As he proceeded with this disgusting work of charity, he took off the shoes and stockings of a rebel, and began to wash his feet. The man began to sob and cry.

"What is the matter; do I hurt you?" said Mr. Merrill.

"No, you don't."

Mr. Merrill proceeded with his work, and again the man began to cry and sob.

"I really cannot go on to wash you, unless you tell me what is the matter."

"Matter enough. You call us rebels, and I suppose we are, for I fought agin that ere old flag; but when we're wounded, you come to us here not like angels, but like the Lord Jesus Christ himself, washing our feet, and I can't stand it—I can't stand it."

Relief of our Starving Prisoners from Richmond.

At an early period the sympathies of the Commission were enlisted on behalf of these martyrs for liberty, by the personal observation of the terrible state of Alfred Caldwell and his comrades, by Rev. Robert Patterson, D. D., of Chicago; Mr. George H. Stuart, of Philadelphia, and other members of the Commission, and by the letters of Rev. I. O. Sloan,—a well-known and highly respected Presbyterian minister of Philadelphia—some extracts from which we subjoin:—

ANNAPOLIS, Nov. 20, 1863.—*Rev. W. E. Boardman*:—Three hundred and fifty of the suffering, starving Union prisoners have just arrived, and been removed from the boat at this point. Many, like those received on the 20th of October, give evidence of the cruel treatment received at the hands of the rebel authorities. Six died on board the boat as she came from Fortress Monroe, and two more as soon as they were removed to their wards. It makes the heart bleed to think of so many of our men still being in the Libby and on Belle Isle.

Two young men, taken at Chickamauga, and among the number who came to-day, tell me that an officer at the hospital in Richmond told them that an average of *forty-three* of our men who are there die every day. How such a fact should arouse and stir up the people of the loyal States! These men ought certainly to be released.

Send us whatever stores you can from the Christian Commission. Many boxes have been received which have done great good. Dr. Vanderkieft, of this hospital, and Dr. Porter of St. John's College, give their personal attention to all these men on their arrival, and show that they can feel and sympathize with our comrades in arms, suffering from imprisonment and cruel usage, as well as seek, by their skill as surgeons, to restore them to health.

Yours truly,

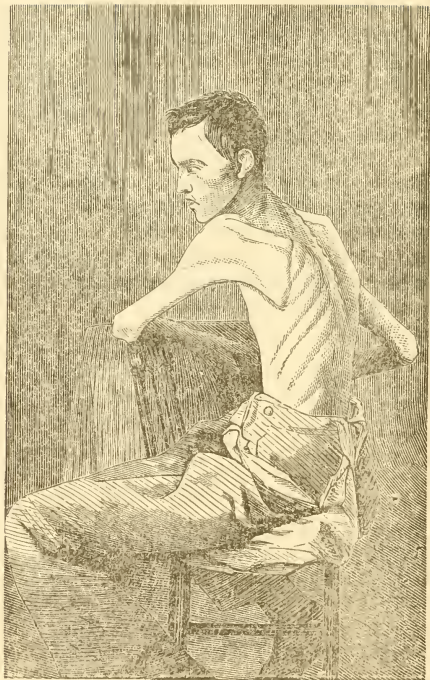
I. O. SLOAN,

Agent Christian Commission at Annapolis.

On the representation of the kind treatment they had received from the Christian Commission, by the rebel officers captured at Gettysburg and Antietam, the Richmond authorities granted permission to the Commission

to send hospital stores and books to our prisoners there; and, while this door was open, the Commission sent about one thousand dollars worth daily; and has reason to know that these stores were honorably delivered, and saved many precious lives. The rebel authorities, however, soon withdrew this permission.

The Commission has sent seven delegates to meet the exchanged prisoners from Savannah with succor, and constantly supplied those landed at Annapolis with such clothing and delicacies as they needed. Its agent there, Rev. I. O. Sloan, faithfully tenders consolation and instruction, and often has the melancholy pleasure of cheering the dying martyrs for liberty.



Private JACKSON O. BROSHEAR, Co. D, 65th Indiana Mounted Infantry. Age 20 years; height 6 feet 1 inch; weight, when captured, 185 lbs.; was in rebel hands three and one-quarter months, 2 months of which were passed on Belle Isle. Under treatment in U. S. Hospital 8 weeks—constantly improving—now, May, 19th, 1864, weighs 108½ lbs.

XV.

Increased Efforts.

The work of the Commission among our wounded, has been greatly increased during the current year. It has followed the army with schooners and steam-tugs, with wagons and teams, with a steam-fire engine, to pump pure water, and a portable kitchen, to cook for moving wagon-trains of wounded, with Diet Kitchens in field hospitals, and an increased force of noble women and men to work these appliances and personally minister to the sorrows of the mind, as well as the wounds of the bodies of our wounded heroes.

The various loyal States have increased their efforts, and the local organizations are now extending in every part of the land.

The following specimens of shipments of stores will give some idea of the various and vast demands upon us, amounting, in the month of September, to over \$127,000, from the Central Office, while the amount from the Branches added, will make \$180,000 in a month.

Hospital Stores.

Hospital stores forwarded for distribution from Central Office, Philadelphia, and from the branch office at Baltimore, during the month of September, 1864:

3,664	Shirts.		156	Boxes Matches.
3,296	Pairs Drawers.		116	lbs. Cured Ham.
1,142	" Socks.		16	Brooms.
1,511	" Slippers.		24	Feeding Cups.
75	" Shoes.		12	Canes.
2,348	" Suspenders.		20	Papers of Pins.
2,335	Handkerchiefs.		754	Reams Writing Paper.
48	Other articles of clothing.	of	183,000	Envelopes.
433	Pillows.		11	Gross Pens.
269	Pillow Cases.		676	Pen-holders.
66	Sheets.		3,744	Pencils.
147	Quilts and Spreads.		24	Slates.
453	Towels.		168	Quarts Ink.
160	Arm Slings.		1,848	Cans Turkey.
85	Thumb Stalls.		960	" Beef.
2,668	Rolls of Bandages.		2,496	" Mutton.
819	Pads.		1,862	" Chicken.
12	Eye Shades.		240	" Veal.
324	Crutches.		48	" Duck.
2,000	Crutch-heads.		76	" Assorted Meats.
15,000	Needles.		381	lbs. Dried Beef.
1,933	Housewives.		645	lbs. Cured Fish.
1,154	Fans.		2,743	lbs. Beef-tea Jelly.
1,072	Combs.		3,246	Cans Peaches.
480	lbs. Soap.		4,988	" Tomatoes.
26	lbs. Thread.		1,332	" Cherries.
			372	" Strawberries.

2,706 cans Blackberries.	55 lbs. Soda.
3,772 " Pears.	50 " Flour.
240 " Plums.	3½ Tons Ice.
249 " Brandy Peaches.	347 Boxes Peaches.
3,202 " Jelly.	1 Box Tapioca.
709 " Assorted Fruit.	54 Bottles Catsup.
219 " Preserves.	½ Bush. Flax Seed.
14 Barrels Dried Apples.	94 Bottles Fruit Syrup.
480 lbs. Dried Fruit, Ass'd.	1,077 Galls. Blackberry Cordial.
5,416 Cans Condensed Milk.	498 Bottles Brandy.
980 lbs. Ground Coffee.	389 " Sherry Wine.
519 lbs. Tea.	250 " Domestic "
395 " Chocolate.	118 " Blackberry.
681 " Sugar.	27 " Port Wine.
4,829 " Farina.	174 " Whiskey.
5,535 " Corn Starch.	768 " Porter.
50 " Arrow Root.	671 " Bay Rum.
100 " Sago.	227 " Cologne.
98 " Gelatine.	12 " Alcohol.
443 " Butter.	11,195 " Ess. Ja. Ginger.
149 Bbls. Crackers.	6 Galls. Castor Oil.
30 " Boston Crackers.	5 lbs. Chloroform.
1 Bbl. Dried Rusk.	25 " Epsom Salts.
1 " Ginger Cakes.	22 " Camphor.
5 Bbls. Meal.	1 Box Pain-Killer.
4 Boxes Cheese.	4,008 Tonic Pills.
1,295 Cans Assorted Pickles.	25 Yds. Isinglass Plaster.
2,343 Galls. Pickled Cucum- bers.	16 lbs. Spices.
12 Bush. Onions.	149 Boxes ass'd Hospital Stores, not included.
1 Keg Limes.	

Large quantities of hospital stores of all kinds are also purchased, and sent directly from New York, Boston, Washington, St. Louis, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Louisville, and other branches, to their respective fields of labor. The following statement of the Pittsburg branch, will illustrate this department of the work.

JOSEPH ALBREE, Treasurer,

In account with Army Committee of Western Pennsylvania:

To cash received from all sources,	\$94,566 39
CR.	
By amount expended for hospital stores,	\$52,400 97
" " religious publica- tions,	13,617 96
By amount of delegates' expenses,	5,198 05
" expended for office expenses, rent, wages of boys, postage, coal and sundries,	1,479 07
By amount expended for relief of soldiers in city,	73 65
By amount remitted to Central Office, Phila- delphia,	21,383 75
By amount of counterfeit money,	141 25
	\$95,294 70
	\$ 728 31

The undersigned, auditors, having carefully examined the books and accounts of Joseph Albree, Esq., Treasurer of Christian Commission, find the same to be correct.

JOSEPH HORNE,

JAMES M'CANDLESS.

RECEIVER'S REPORT.

Account of Stores forwarded from April, 1863, to Nov'r, 1864.

Flannel shirts,.....	7,059
Muslin “	10,203
Flannel drawers, prs.....	4,976
Muslin “ “	6,599
Slippers, prs.....	1,752
Sheets,.....	2,196
Comforts.....	731
Blankets,.....	860
Pillows,.....	4,324
“ cases,.....	3,369
Socks, prs.....	11,449
Dressing gowns,.....	921
Handkerchiefs,.....	11,872
Towels,.....	4,887
Mittens, prs.....	2,980
Housewives,.....	5,760
Rolls of bandages,.....	14,975
“ muslin,.....	11,390
Pads and rings,.....	31,092
Arm slings,.....	9,074
Mosquito nets,.....	279
Lint, lbs.....	1,746

Buttons, gross,.....	783
Needles, “	376
Thread, lbs.....	297
Fans, ...	12,460
Combs, ...	5,960
Crutches, prs.	4,175
Sponges, ...	760
Cabbage, &c., bbls.....	37
Tin cups and plates, ...	1,490
Dishes, doz.....	120
Cups and mugs, doz.	341
Canes,.....	510
Carpet, yds.....	407
Stoves, ...	14
Tents, ...	3
Wagons,.....	2
Horses,.....	4
Cans of fruit, ...	22,837
Dried fruit, lbs.	32,343
Wine, qts.	4,210
Whiskey, qts.	6,109
Brandy, “	1,640
Blackberry cordial, qts.....	1,376
Bay rum, qts.	591
Cologne, “	762
Pickles,.....	208,760
Butter, lbs.	14,290
Corn starch, lbs.....	1,241
Crackers, “	4,164
Farina, “	448

Ginger,	lbs.	250
Sago,	"	165
Gelatine,	"	75
Sugar,	"	3,462
Honey	"	130
Hoarhound	"	163
Maccaroni,	"	485
Barley,	"	278
Tapioca	"	610
Nutmegs,	"	115
Chocolate,	"	285
Tea,	"	156
Vegetables, bush.		2,641
Eggs, doz.		5,720
Meat, in cans,		410
Milk,	"	2,476
Beef tea, in cans,		1,190
Apple butter, qts.		2,219
Dried beef, lbs.		1,840
Citric acid, lbs.		240
Flavoring extracts, bottles,		860
Oysters, cans,		75
Oranges, doz.		1,120
Lemons,	"	1,470
Chairs,		360
Ink, qts.		114
Papers and tracts, pages,		2,261,976
Small soldier books,		126,524
Large soldier books, for libraries,		7,404
Testaments,		18,940

Hymn and psalm books, ...	21,472
Magazines and pamphlets, ...	40,120
Writing paper, reams, ...	957
Pens, doz.	4,860
Lead pencils, ...	3,420
Envelopes, ...	87,940
Medicines, to the value of \$2,109.	

The above articles have been sent by the Pittsburg Branch of the United States Christian Commission, to our armies, and distributed by our delegates to the soldiers.

Value of stores donated, ...	\$108,067 03
“ “ purchased, ...	53,400 97

Total value of stores, ... \$161,468 00

WM. P. WEYMAN, Receiver,

No. 76 Smithfield street,

Pittsburg, Penn'a.

The Subsistence Committee have very admirable refreshment rooms in the central part of the city. They have fed, during the month, thirty thousand soldiers.

The Ladies' Christian Commission meets every afternoon, at the City Hall, from 2 to 5 o'clock. The following work has been cut out and made up during the month:—292 shirts, 184 pairs of drawers, 370 handkerchiefs, 265 pairs of crutches covered, 834 arm slings, 110 bandages.

Cost.

The cost of all these expenditures for the past month, is one hundred and twenty-seven thousand, four hundred and twenty-four dollars, from the Central Office; that of the

branches added, increases it to over one hundred and eighty thousand dollars; or SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS per day. But we have not yet reached all our soldiers, nor done for any of them all we are in duty bound to do. The gunboats, hospitals and chapel tents, should each possess a good library of a hundred and fifty volumes. Let every owner of a library at once release a few well-bound volumes of healthful, lively literature, and forward them to the Christian Commission; who will forward one thousand four hundred and forty such libraries to our soldiers and sailors, if the books are donated, and will secure their proper use. The field and post-hospitals must be supplied with large print Testaments, and hundreds of thousands of pocket scriptures and hymn-books must be furnished to the new levies, and to the brave men who have lost their copies in marches and battles. The friends of the Bible should see that the American Bible Society is supplied with funds for this large demand. Then the soldiers ask eagerly for the regular religious newspapers; and the Commission is making arrangements to treble their present army circulation. But a copy of a paper, weekly, to each man in the pay of the United States—and surely to men who seldom have any other reading whatever, this is little enough—will demand one million of dollars per annum. Chapel tents, so greatly blessed as the scenes of the revivals last winter, must be provided, and should be in each brigade. They will cost six hundred dollars each.

The impending conflicts at Richmond, Charleston and Mobile, will make sudden and extensive demands for bat-

tle-field stores. As we write, extensive shipments are going forward for the relief of the heroes who have cleared the enemy out of the valley of the Shenandoah, under Sheridan, and for the naked and famished exchanged prisoners at Savannah. Unexpected contingencies are continually arising.

To meet the expenses of the Winter's work, the Commission needs not less than ONE MILLION of dollars.

The amount is trifling, compared with the outlay of the nation in this war; being less than a single day's expenditure. The Church is amply able to give it. Let every gospel hearer only contribute the amount of his taxes. Let not your tears for our soldiers be imbittered by the gall of regret, that you neglected an earnest effort for their soul's salvation. Next month may be too late. God is honoring our army by the presence of his Spirit as never was an army honored before. Let not customary trivial contributions throw their slight upon such a Pentecost. The universal revival of our army would be the universal revival of all the churches, and villages, and cities of our land, to which our converted soldiers would carry the holy fire. Rise, then, we beseech you, to the magnitude of this great occasion, by a supply of means to work while the war lasts. Make an offering worthy of your gracious God, your loving Saviour, your great country, and her brave defenders.

XVI.

The Moral Results of this War.

I say the results—for this war must come to an end, as all wars have done. We shall yet dwell in peace with those brave erring men against whom we are now at war. From the great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico—from the Atlantic to the Pacific that flag shall wave over these re-united States—one glorious country—one and indivisible evermore. There are some wise men in the East, and possibly some here, who prophesy *our inability to obtain men to re-enforce our armies*, and to defend us from the aggressions of European powers. Sir, I come from one of the newest of our Western States, where hundreds of miles of unbroken prairie yet invite the plow, and where, upon thousands of the farms, the farmers' growing boys and blooming girls are the only help for harvest labors. But, when the boom of the cannon fired against Sumter was heard across the prairie, the farmer left his plow in the furrow, and the young man, building the cottage for his betrothed, left the hand-saw in the plank, (I have seen it there,) and workmen fell into line in their working clothes, and sent word to their wives to meet

them at the railroad depot with clean shirts, for they were off to fight for the Union; and again has this scene been enacted, till a hundred and eighty-one gallant regiments left our soil, and mothers and children gazed wistfully, yet proudly, on the receding columns. No conscription drew these men—they all volunteered. To-day, Illinois has furnished, ahead of all calls and drafts, on her quota, 12,473 of the sort of boys who took Fort Donelson; and if Father Abraham should need another million of men to repel this threatened French aggression, we have a few more of the same sort left. It is a great mistake to suppose that our population is being diminished by the war. Doubtless every household feels the blank caused by the absence of the brother or the son, who preferred to anticipate by a few years the common doom of humanity, for the honor of a hero's grave. But the lack is not evident in the community. A stream of emigration from the snow-clad hills of Norway, the pine forests of Sweden, the meadows of Holland, the vine-clad banks of the merry Rhine, the workshops of Britain, and the green hills of Ireland, has more than supplied the drain of the army. To-day you could not get house-room in Chicago unless you rented the house while building, and the city is obliged, so great is the concourse, to provide white-gloved policemen to assist the ladies at the crossings of the streets. There is no danger that we shall be obliged to submit to the breaking up of our country for the want of men to defend it, thank God.

Nor is the *financial difficulty* which men apprehended inevitable. I grant that we are expending money very

fast now, but no faster than we are making it. Our taxes certainly are large, but they are only the price of the barrel that holds the flour. Our national debt is said to be \$1,000,000,000. Well, that is only about the amount we lay past in bank or in real estate every year. The increase in the value of real estate from the year 1850 to 1860, as reported in the Preliminary Report of the Eighth Census, page 194, is \$8,925,481. For the four years since, the increase is proportionally much greater. The whole national debt could be paid off in one year, and the nation be no poorer than it was two years ago. Our great difficulty is not financial. We have money enough to carry on this war until it shall please the Lord of Hosts to give us the victory.

Our difficulty is the *moral difficulty*—the defeat of success. It is the great difficulty which has overturned every military republic known to history—the political power of a demoralized army. Spartan austerity, Athenian culture, Roman courage and discipline, alike fell before the returning conquerors of other nations: and the fate of the French Republic is fresh before our eyes. Every un-Christian republic has fallen by war.

We must not shut our eyes to the influences of that *camp education* to which we are exposing the youths of our Republic, during the susceptible period when character takes the impression of circumstances, and amidst circumstances which tend to confuse the distinction between the ignoble vices of the camp, and the noble patriotism of the army. We withdraw our boys from business of daily life, and from the influence of public opinions.

and from the refining influence of female society. We employ them for hours in the day in a wearisome and monotonous drill, absolutely necessary, however, to their success in the battle-field; and when that is over, we leave them to an equally monotonous indolence. There is the same camp beyond which they may not stir, the same companions, the same hard tack, pork and coffee through the year, with no luxury, save whiskey, and no amusement save cards, and the general tone of conversation around them—profane; need we wonder that very many youths give way to vices from which they could have recoiled with horror at home? Withdraw from them the influences of religious ordinances, the remembrance of the Sabbath, and the stated preaching of the Gospel, and what restraint is left upon those vices which military discipline deems beyond its range.

Our republican institutions are based upon the moral character of our citizens. How long could they stand, if our people became a gambling, drunken, licentious, oath-despising people? Look at the Spanish republics! Remember the return of the army which conquered Mexico—though but a mere handful compared with the hundreds of thousands who shall return, if God will, to their homes.

How shall they return? How shall mothers receive the boys they sent forth so brave, and pure, and manly? Shall they return reeking with whiskey, and polluting the air with oaths, to take up their posts at the taverns, and become patterns of vice to the community?—for they will be the heroes and admired examples of our children.

They will be elected to all public offices. They will give tone to the manners and morals of our republic for the next thirty years. Shall they come back under the influences of the Gospel, temperate, reverent, and pure? They may, if you will send them the restraining influences of the Gospel. No other power known to man can preserve them from vice.

Military discipline does not propose this object, and would be utterly powerless to accomplish it. All historians and philosophers acknowledge the dangers which surround the despotic power of a great military people.

The military discipline of an army is necessarily strict and imperious, and where it extends, generally effectual. Its essential principle is obedience to orders; which is the very opposite of the liberty of the citizen. An army is a despotism, a one-man power. It must be so. One mind must direct, and all the rest allow him to do the thinking for them. The General is master—absolute ruler; on any other principle an army is simply a mob. Now, so far as this ideal of an army is realized, its members become unfitted for civil life, and especially for the management of Republican Government. They are being trained by military training—if that is the only education they are receiving, and if no moral and religious influences are at the same time brought to bear upon them—they are being trained to submission to despotic government; and I put it to you to say whether it be safe to expose boys to this constant, omnipresent, and all-powerful influence, without, at the same time, giving the soldier those powerful higher motives which will ena-

ble him to submit to the orders of his officer from respect to the authority of God. If the soldier be merely the follower of Cæsar, or of Napoleon, he will readily become the tool of his ambition: the army will be first, and the country second, and God nowhere. Remove the law of God from the soldier's heart, and you leave no other law than the orders of his commanding officer—and you have an army like that of infidel France, ready to enthrone any unprincipled, successful General. But ingraft the principles of military obedience on the conscience, show the soldier that obedience to his commanding officer is due because the welfare of his country, and the law of his God require it, and you will see Senators, and Judges, and Vice Presidents shouldering the musket and knapsack cheerfully, and obeying the orders of men socially, intellectually and morally their inferiors; yet you will never see such soldiers lifting their hands at the bidding of any man, or at the more powerful promptings of their own ambition, against their country. When their country's battles have been fought, they will lay down their swords at her feet, and, like the soldiers of Cromwell, or, like our own immortal Washington, by the example of their virtue, bless the land they have bled to save.

But give to men who have been educated out of their consciences an unprincipled General and a convulsed nation, and you shall see, as in France, a powerful army bribed into the service of an adventurer, transforming the republic into an empire, and a builder of empires upon the ruins of American republics. The Gospel of Christ—

who humbled Himself, and made Himself of no reputation, and took on Himself the guise of a servant—is the only known power which is capable of restraining the General and of inspiring the soldier, and of uniting both in a willingness to lay down their arms, when no longer needed for the defence of their country.

But I anticipate a still greater influence of religion in our army than a mere negative restraining power. Our every day religion, for some centuries, has been cold, and gradually becoming effete; and the world, taking advantage of its paralysis, is fast overlaying it by mere force of numbers. Even in London—the capital of Christendom—heathenism grows faster than the church; and in our own great cities there is a rapidly increasing underground class not reached by our respectable churches. In fact, our religion is of the respectable burgess order, fat, well-clad in broad cloth, with gilt Bible, Gothic church and organ; and most Christians have never dreamed of the rough combat with the powers of darkness which an earnest effort to convert the world demands. Now, we want an infusion of the military spirit into our religion, to make us soldiers of Christ of the Apostolic sort; and we greatly need that vigorous, bodily, and mental health which camp life inspires. A dyspeptic piety will never convert the world. Let the revival with which the Lord is now honoring our army, extend over all the regiments, let a majority of our soldiers feel its influence, and go home to their churches and villages converted soldiers, and soon our churches would be revived with such a revival as the astonished

world has never witnessed. No discussion of dogmas, nor dreaming about experiences, while the enemy is before them, and the Captain of the Lord's host has given the orders to charge! A single regiment of converted soldiers would attack a state, and the ungodliness of the Union could not long stand before our army of good soldiers of Jesus Christ. The conversion of our country will be the result of the evangelization of our army.

But not merely the welfare of our republic—the best *interests of the world* demand that the power of religion be felt in our army. Our nation is a microcosm. All the nations of the earth flock to our shores. The Chinese and the German meet in your streets. Here alone, of all the nations of the world, are all nations welcome. Here only has the great experiment been tried of the ability of men for self-government. We are regarded by the people of all nations as their natural ally.

Our young country is like a young man entering upon life, who, during the first years of his boyhood, cannot seriously determine what his vocation in life shall be. It was the design, no doubt, of the founders of this Republic that we should remain isolated from the politics of the other nations of the earth, cultivating the soil, and attending to our domestic affairs—interfering with none, and not interfered with by others. Doubtless, this condition of things would be very delightful, could it be permitted to us. But,

“There's a divinity that shapes our ends,
Rough-hew them how we will.”

And it does not appear to be the design of the Almighty Disposer of the destinies of nations to permit this Republic, enjoying, as it has done, unparalleled civil liberty, the most extensive circulation of Gospel principles, the largest opportunities of developing external civilization, and now suddenly astonishing us at the sight of our soil covered with armed men, undergoing a rigid military discipline—it does not appear to be the design of God that the United States of America should occupy any such humble, isolated, private situation among the nations of the world.

The Lord has led us by a way we knew not, into a wonderful prominence among the nations of the earth. He has been for centuries preparing this nation for a vastness of military power without a parallel in the annals of mankind. The Lord of Hosts seems to have chosen this land as His great military and naval depot, for raising and training the legions He has called for the last great conflict of earth; and He has in these last days flashed into the minds of Americans discoveries evidently designed to facilitate the equipment of His hosts. This nation was being prepared for the feeding of vast armies by the discovery of the prairies. The Reaping Machine came in time for securing the wholesale harvesting of the crops. The Threshing Machine and the Steam Mill converted them into flour before night. The Power Spinning Mill, the Steam Loom, and the Sewing Machine made it possible to clothe our vast armies in a short time. Mines of iron and coal were made accessible by canals and railroads, and engines of tremendous power were

working iron plates for boilers, and bars for railroads, and ship-builders were experimenting upon iron ships. Millions of workmen of all lands came, impelled by some Divine instinct, to our shores, and when God's trumpet sounded the call to the war, the German, the Hungarian, the Swede and the Irishman marched shoulder to shoulder to the defence of their adopted land. Without any plan or forethought of ours, and contrary even to the traditionary maxims of the fathers of our republic, we find ourselves the most powerful nation in the world, with a larger army and a more powerful navy than any nation on earth. We have one million of men under arms to-day, and over eight hundred vessels of war afloat. The quality and armament of our armies and navies is even more extraordinary; the developments of the strife perfectly astounding. For when the Congress and Cumberland sunk at Newport, the wooden navies of the world went down with them. The wooden walls of Old England fell before the Merrimac, and her long boasted supremacy of the ocean foundered as they sunk before the iron monster, and her officers speedily exploded her in terror of the Monitor. Thenceforth the iron-clad ship was the only ship of war. All the rest in her presence were only wooden coffins. By a wonderful series of providences we have been enabled to build from our own work-shops a large number of iron ships, actually afloat and in service, and armed with larger and more powerful artillery than France, or England, or than either one of these powers, and all the rest of Europe combined.

Now this is a navy which we cannot sell or give away, and

whether we will or not, must remain the first naval power in the world. Should we never use a rifle, never move a ship from her anchor, we must be an influential people, to be consulted by the other nations of the earth. Were we ever so peacefully disposed, they cannot fail to remember, when they want to divide the peoples and nationalities of the world among themselves, that there are a million of armed men and eight hundred ships of war across the Atlantic, within twelve days of Europe; and 3000 of our commercial marine, capable of being armed and sweeping the commerce of Europe from the face of the ocean; and this fact may have its influence on their minds when they propose to overrun this continent with a swarm of bastard Emperors.

But it seems all too evident that we are not to be left in peace to exert a moral influence. The Lord is mustering the nations to the last great struggle between freedom and slavery, truth and error, and wish it as we may, He does not design that we bury the power He has forced on us. We are not being thus trained for idleness.

We are entering, fellow-citizens, upon a period foretold by prophets of old—looked for and longed for by lovers of their country in past generations—which kings and prophets waited to see, and have not seen—a period of the overthrow of despotism, and the downfall of Anti-Christ; and it is evidently the design of Almighty God that the United States of America should be found prepared for taking their part, whatever it may be, in that great struggle. In that struggle the army and navy of the United States will doubtless find some appropriate

work to perform, not with the design of subjugation or territorial extension, but in brotherly defence of right and truth, beside the European defenders of the rights of God and man. The arbitrament of the world's destiny, the fate of the liberty of mankind, depends on the American army and navy.

For such a work as this—a high, a holy, a self-denying work—what sort of instrumentality shall God employ? Shall it be an army profane, dissolute, insubordinate? an army disposed to lend itself to be the tool of despots and despotism? or shall it be an army composed of God-fearing men, men of self-denial, men of lofty patriotism, men like the Havelocks, and Cromwells, and the Davids of old, who placed the good of the country and the glory of God above their chiefest joy, and marched forth to the field of battle as men go forward to the communion table, singing the Psalms which God has indited for such occasions, and believing that the blessing of Heaven was hovering over their banners?

If such is to be the character of the men who are to take part in this great contest, then it is indispensably necessary that some such agency as this Christian Commission should carry to them in the ranks, and press home upon the acceptance of every soldier and sailor of this mighty army and navy, the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Arise, then, Christians of America, and gird yourselves for this great undertaking. Let every church send its delegate, every village its supplies, every city its contributions. The *church* has yet done nothing to show an

earnestness in *her* work equal to that of the *nation*. Let every Christian contribute the amount of his taxes, and let each of our thousand regiments and eight hundred vessels have its delegate; and then let every prayer meeting in the land wrestle with God for a revival, and we shall see such an outpouring of the Spirit as will convert the army, revive the church, and regenerate the nation.

Dr. Patterson.

COMMUNICATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

May be sent to any of the following places, as may be most convenient.

PHILADELPHIA.—Letters to Rev. W. E. Boardman, Rev. Lemuel Moss, or Rev. Bernice D. Ames, 11 Bank street; money to Joseph Patterson, at the Western Bank; stores to George H. Stuart, 11 Bank street.

ALBANY, N. Y.—Supplies to Thomas W. Oleott; letters to Levi Dedrick; money to William M'Elroy.

BALTIMORE.—Letters to Rev. J. M'Jilton, D. D.; money to Rev. G. P. Hays; stores to G. S. Griffith, 89 & 91 West Baltimore street.

BANGOR, ME.—Letters, money and supplies, to T. G. Stiekney.

BOSTON.—Letters to C. Demond, 91 Washington street; money to Joseph Story, 112 Tremont street; stores to L. P. Rowland, Jr., Tremont Temple.

BROOKLYN, L. I.—Letters to Rev. J. B. Waterbury, D. D.; supplies to W. S. Griffith, and money to Samuel B. Caldwell. Rooms, 16 Court st.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Letters to Rev. S. Hunt; money to F. Gridley; supplies to J. D. Hill, M. D. Commission Rooms, at 41 Pearl street.

CHICAGO.—Letters to B. F. Jacobs, P. O. Box, 5801; money to John V. Farwell; supplies to Rooms Y. M. C. A., Methodist Church Block.

CINCINNATI.—Letters to Rev. J. F. Marlay; money and supplies, to A. E. Chamberlain, 51 Vine street.

CLEVELAND, O.—Letters to L. F. Mellen; money to S. H. Mather; supplies to Stillman Witt.

DETROIT, MICH.—Letters and money, to C. F. Clarke; stores to E. C. Walker.

FREDERICK, MD.—Letters, money and supplies, to Gideon Bantz.

HAGERSTOWN, MD.—Letters, money and supplies, to Rev. J. Evans.

HARTFORD: CONNECTICUT BRANCH.—Letters to Rev. H. Powers; money to A. G. Hammond, Exchange Bank; supplies to Rooms of Ladies' Soldiers' Aid Society, 87 Asylum street.

HARRISBURG, PA.—Letters, money and supplies to Rev. T. H. Robinson.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.—Letters to C. N. Todd; money to James M. Ray; supplies to G. W. Clippinger.

LAMBERTSVILLE, N. J.—Supplies and money, to J. A. Anderson; letters to C. Pierson.

LOUISVILLE, KY.—Letters, money and supplies, to J. Edward Hardy, care of J. G. Dodge & Co., 325 Main street.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—Letters to D. W. Perkins; money to John A. Dutcher; stores to Walter S. Carter, care of Dutcher, Ball & Goodrich, 103 E. Water street.

NEW YORK.—Letters and supplies, to Dr. N. Bishop; Rooms U. S. C. C., 30 Bible House; money to James M. Brown, 59 Wall street.

PEORIA, ILL.—Money to Theo. Higbee; letters and supplies, to William Reynolds. Rooms 10 South Adams street, (up stairs.)

PITTSBURGH, PA.—Letters to Robert C. Totten; money to William Frew, James M'Cully & Co., 172 Wood

street; stores to William P. Weyman, 79 Smithfield street.

PORTLAND, ME.—Letters and supplies, to Thomas R. Hayes; money to C. Sturdivant.

PORTLAND, OREGON.—W. S. Ladd, Treasurer; of firm of Ladd & Tilton. Letters to Rev. G. G. Atkinson.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Money to W. Vernon; letters and supplies, to W. J. King.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Letters, money and supplies, to Oliver D. Grosvenor.

SACRAMENTO, CAL.—Letters to Rev. J. S. M'Donald; money to Dr. R. R. M'Donald; supplies to Rev. N. R. Peck.

ST. LOUIS.—Letters to J. H. Parsons; money to Edwin Tieknor; supplies to Isaac S. Smyth, Christian Commission Office, under Lindell Hotel.

ST. PAUL'S, MINN.—Letters to H. M. Knox; money to D. D. Merrill; supplies to D. W. Ingersoll.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Letters to Rev. E. Thomas, 711 Mission street; money to P. Sather, (Sather & Co.;) supplies to J. B. Roberts, 214 California street.

TROY, N. Y.—Letters and money, to F. P. Allen; supplies to J. H. Willard.

UTICA, N. Y.—*Central New York Branch*—Money to R. S. Williams (Cashier Oneida Bank,) Treasurer, 157 Genesee Street; letters and supplies to Rev. D. W. Bristol, D. D., Secretary and Agent, 32 Genesee Street.

VIRGINIA, NEV.—Letters and money, to Rev. Franklin Rising.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Letters, money and supplies, to William Ballantyne, 498 Seventh street, or Rev. J. J. Abbott, 500 H street.

WHEELING, W. V.—Letters, money and supplies to R. Crangle.





LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 040 856 6